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America briefed Envoy explains Mideast issues

By Bob Lebling and Fowzi El-Asmar Washington Bureau WASHINGTON, March 17 — Saudi Arabia is making a major effort to explain the Palestinian question and other Middle East realities to the new U.S. administration and Congress, Arab News has learned.

Aware that the Reagan administration and many of the newly-elected senators and congressmen lack information on the Arab perspective toward the Palestinian issue and other key regional questions, the Kingdom has initiated a series of extensive contacts with U.S. officials and lawmakers to brief them on the Arab stand.

Over the past few months, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the U.S., Sheikh Faisal Al Hegelan, has had a full schedule of meetings with top administration officials and numerous members of Congress whose responsibilities involve U.S. policy toward the Middle East and Gulf region.

Since the new administration took office last January, Al Hegelan has met separately with Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, Energy Secretary James Edwards and other cabinet officials.

In a one-month period — from Feb. 5 to Mar. 5 — the Saudi Arabian ambassador held discussions with at least 26 members of Congress. Of these lawmakers, 23 were Senators on key committees, such as foreign relations, energy, and armed services, which deal with the Middle East policy.

Al Hegelan met with ten Senators from the 17-member Foreign Relations Committee. These ten included committee chairman Charles Percy, Middle East subcommittee chairman Rudy Boschwitz, ranking minority member, Clairborne Pell, and other key Republicans and Democrats.

It is worth noting that the Saudi Arabian ambassador met with four Foreign Relations Committee members who had signed a letter to President Reagan last month voicing "serious concerns" over the proposed sale of F-15 accessories to the Kingdom: Pell, Alan Cranston, Paul Tsongas and Christopher Dood.



SKY PIRACY ENDS: Salimullah, Khan, leader of the three-man group that hijacked a Pakistan International Airlines plane March 7, shakes hands with chief Syrian negotiator Brig. Gen. Myhammad Khouli and hands over his gun to an unidentified man moments after surrendering and ending the world's longest hijacking March 14.

Prisoners will not be returned PIA hijackers denied protection from Syria

By a Staff Writer RYADH, March 17 — Syria has granted the freed Pakistani political prisoners a temporary asylum in order to ease the plight of the passengers who had been incarcerated in the plane for 13 days, the Syrian Deputy Premier Abu Halim Khaddam told Arab News here Tuesday.

Khaddam who arrived here for talks with government leaders said Syria had no intention of making the asylum permanent but was "in a hurry" to decide about the country to which they would like to proceed. He denied that his government had granted asylum to the hijackers themselves.

He said that Syria will not surrender the prisoners to Pakistan and that there was no truth at all in allegations that Pakistan had asked it to do so. Khaddam held talks with Prince Abdullah, second deputy premier and commander of the National Guard and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal about "bilateral relations and matters of common interest."

Meanwhile, the 144 passengers, crew and other officials visited the Prophet's mosque in Medina after completing their Umra in Mecca to thank God for their salvation. They had arrived in Taif Monday as guests of the Saudi Arabian government throughout their stay in the Kingdom. They are due to leave for home Wednesday morning. (See story back page).

BAHRAIN, March 17 (R) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) said Tuesday it had loaned \$25 million to Pakistan to buy crude oil from Saudi Arabia, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. This brings total IDB credits to Pakistan to \$165 million.

LONDON, March 17, (R) — Under pressure from Western European governments, the United States is taking its first cautious steps toward starting disarmament talks with Moscow.

Oil output Yamani rules out cut

By Adnan Sadeq RYADH, March 17 — Saudi Arabia has no intention whatever of reducing its oil production in the near future, Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources told Arab News Tuesday prior to a four-state oil ministers conference here.

He denied Foreign press reports which had claimed that the government was going to reduce its daily output of ten million bpd by 500,000 to 600,000 bpd starting from first of April. Earlier Tuesday Saudi Arabia and three Gulf oil producing countries discussed coordinating their stance toward OPEC at a meeting here but they did not consider oil production cuts.

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 17 (AP) — Common Market foreign ministers reached a breakthrough agreement on a uniform passport and said the new cardinal red travel document will be ready for issue to citizens in the 10 nations by 1985.

TOKYO, March 17 (AFP) — Japan has adopted a set of measures to bolster the economy, whose performance in recent months has fallen short of government expectations.

CAIRO, March 17 (AFP) — Five Sudanese army officers have been arrested for plotting an unsuccessful coup last week, the Sudanese news agency Sana reported in a dispatch monitored here Tuesday.

TOKYO, March 17 (AP) — A court order for the retrial of a man who has lived on death row for 31 years has given new impetus to a drive to curb powers of Japanese police and prosecutors.

VIENNA, March 17 (AP) — The retired head of the Vienna police headquarters' aliens registration office and another police officer were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of espionage, the interior ministry announced Wednesday.

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Sekou Toure departs for Delhi

Goodwill mission to meet again

JEDDAH, March 17 (SPA) — The Islamic Conference Organization mission attempting to end the Iraq-Iran war will meet again in Jeddah later this month, officials announced.

Addressing newsmen after meeting with OIC Secretary general Habib Chatti, President Sekou Toure of Guinea, said the OIC had received the official replies of both Iraq and Iran to the proposals offered by the mission. Seko Toure left Jeddah for New Delhi Monday night after the talk with Chatti.

Earlier this month the mission, set up by the Islamic Summit Conference in Saudi Arabia last January visited the capitals of the warring countries but its proposals were rejected. The proposals called for a ceasefire, phased withdrawal of Iraqi troops from captured Iranian territory and settlement of disputes over the Shatt

Al-Arab River, which separates the two countries.

President Toure said Iraq and Iran had written to the mission about peace conditions, which he did not disclose. But he said the door to further talks was not closed and both countries were agreed in principle on a need for a final settlement of the problem.

President Toure said the mission had refused a demand that it convene as a court. "The mission's purpose is to have a ceasefire and to reach a final settlement to the problem," he added. The president did not say who had the demand, but Iran has said international bodies trying to stop the war should investigate the cause of the conflict for which it blamed Iraq.

The mission includes the presidents of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Gambia, the

Prime minister of Turkey, the foreign ministers of Senegal and Malaysia and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat.

In New Delhi, Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao said the four-member non-aligned group trying to end the war was expected to visit Tehran and Baghdad in the first week of April.

Rao, who returned from a meeting of the group in Geneva, told reporters the three other members — the foreign ministers of Cuba and Zambia and the political head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) — would probably meet in New Delhi before their peace mission.

The Indian minister said the group had been encouraged that Iran and Iraq agreed to receive them and expressed satisfaction at the progress made so far.



ARRIVAL: Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure is shown during his arrival in Jeddah Monday. Toure, who is the president of the Islamic goodwill mission, was received by OIC Secretary General Habib Chatti (left), and Deputy Mecca Governor Prince Abdul Mohsen (right). The president left for New Delhi Tuesday.

IDF grants \$150m loan to Sudan port

Khartoum Bureau

KHARTOUM, Sudan, March 17 — The Saudi Industrial Development Fund agreed to contribute \$150 million towards the \$300 million Suakin port project on the Red Sea.

The Federal Republic of Germany and Sudan will provide the remaining \$150 million. According to the fund's president, Ali Gawhari, SIDA and West Germany are convinced of the urgent necessity for the new port. The movement of imports and exports has increased beyond the handling capacity of the present port, Sudanese minister of national planning, Nasr Eldin Mustaf, told the Saudi Arabian official.

A joint meeting among the Fund, West Germany and Sudan will take place in Germany in the latter half of April to coordinate implementation procedures. Representatives from SIDA and West Germany arrived here on Feb. 25 to conduct a series of discussions with the concerned parties. The new port of Suakin is located about 45 kilometers south of Port Sudan and 10 kilometers from the older port of Suakin. The maximum capacity of the port, after completion, is expected to reach three times that of Port Sudan.

Jeddah Chinese cultural show opens

By Javid Hassan

JEDDAH, March 17 — A Chinese festival depicting the various facets of Chinese culture and cuisine was inaugurated at the Badr Sheraton hotel here for a week-long show. Originally Mecca Deputy Governor Prince

Saud ibn Abdul Mohsin was to inaugurate the festival. In his absence, Abdul Rahman Sudairi, commissioner of Jeddah, performed the inaugural ceremony Monday.

Explaining the objective of the festival, the Chinese ambassador Yu-chi Hsueh said the occasion was intended to express the friend-

ship and solidarity between the peoples of Saudi Arabia and China.

He introduced at a press conference the noted Chinese painter Gen. Yeh Tsui-Pai whose paintings of horses have been internationally acclaimed. "Yeh sees through his eye the beauty, bravery, vivacity and intelligence of the horse," Hsueh said of the bespectacled painter whose works are on display at the exhibition.



CHINA EXHIBIT: Abdul Rahman Sudairi (second from left), Jeddah Commissioner, tours the Chinese cultural exhibition at the Al Badr Sheraton Hotel. He is flanked by the interpreter, press attache Sheldon Peng and China ambassador Yu-chi Hsueh and Gen. Mansour Al-Shuaibi, Western Region commander.

Also on view are Chinese objects d'art, paintings, ceramics, masks, musical instruments and Chinese dolls portraying the various strands of the national costume.

The paintings present a panoramic view of Taiwan. A centerpiece of attraction is a canvas by Chang Dai-chien, China's celebrated painter who employs the splash ink method. The canvas on view depicts the Chinese countryside. Another painting shows the narcissus, a symbol of good luck for the Chinese.

Interestingly, all the paintings carry seals, mentioning the name of the painter, his address and related particulars. There is also a description of the piece as seen through the painter's eyes. The use of Chinese calligraphy is meant to give a balanced look to the canvas.

Referring to the use of the seal, a Chinese official said every adult in his country was required to own a seal which was the standard form of signature. The seals, which were made either of wood or metal, are also used in monetary and legal transactions. Like a signature, no two seals look alike. They are made after a selection from a catalogue.

Earlier, a documentary on Taipei presented a scintillating spectacle of the city, its imposing buildings, its parks and other tourist attractions. The documentary provided an insight into Chinese cultural matrix, such as the human shapes of kites, the dragon dance, etc. A rich Chinese dinner provided a fitting finale to the inaugural festival.

COMMENT

By Ahmed Al-Azab

Al Yom

Medicine is a basic necessity for the patient. Drugs used to be extracted from herbs and used to help patients immensely, although they were not prepared scientifically. In those days, the patient largely depended on popular prescriptions which used to be successful in most cases. For the prescribers believed that cure is in the hand of God alone.

Today, medicine is like any commodity brought about by modern development. Every ailment has a specific treatment, and the pharmacies, which are supposed to give medicines according to the doctor's prescription, follow a commercial line with no regard to doctors' instructions. Every pharmacy sells medicine even without a physician's prescription, and often it has been noticed that the patient explains his condition to the pharmacist, who immediately gives him medicine without a medical examination.

One is confronted with many problems in the sale of medicines. Do the pharmacies really follow regulations for selling medicine, or are they just places to sell medicine along with cosmetics and perfumes?

Likewise, it is also important to ensure that the buyer knows how to use the medicine. Some people take medicine according to their temperament, using certain medicine only if they like it. Public hospitals patients insist on being given a specific medicine, and if the doctor disagrees, they just throw it away as soon as they come out of the hospital.

Medicine is an essential requirement for the treatment of an ailing person, and the pharmacist and the patient are governed by a human relationship based on conscience and belief.

OIC accounts approved

JEDDAH, March 17 (SPA) — The Permanent Finance Committee of the 42-member Organization of the Islamic Conference wound up a four-day session here Monday. The meeting was inaugurated last Monday by Habib Chatti, the OIC secretary general.

The committee adopted the closing accounts of the organization for the past financial year, and the OIC's new budget estimates to be submitted to the 12th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which will be held in Baghdad next May. It also recommended new quotas for the member states' contribution to the OIC.

Prayer Times

Wednesday	Mecca	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5.02	5.03	4.34	4.21	4.46	5.15
Ishraq (Sunrise)	6.27	6.28	5.59	5.46	6.11	6.40
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.29	12.30	12.01	11.48	12.12	12.42
Asr (Evening)	3.54	3.55	3.27	3.14	3.38	4.08
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.32	6.33	6.04	5.51	6.15	6.45
Isha (Night)	8.02	8.03	7.34	7.21	7.45	8.15

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مركز المعارض

Diseases discussed

Medical talks resume

By Alman Abdullah Zahid

JEDDAH, March 17 — The Sixth Medical Congress sponsored by King Abdul Aziz University of Jeddah continued meetings at the Meridien Hotel here Tuesday morning. The seminar is focusing on parasitic diseases, an important topic for the Middle East.

Dr. J. Nilson, of Liverpool University tropical diseases division, lectured on bilharzia. Tuesday morning's session was presided over by Dr. W. Peter, of London University tropical diseases school.

Dr. Fuad Zahran, KAU Faculty of Medicine dean, spoke on the hazards of smoking cigarettes and shisha in the King-



Dr. Fuad Zahran

dom. He presented a study of comparison between the two substances. The research revealed that the amount of nicotine in shisha is less than the level in other tobacco products. However, permanent smoking of shisha causes toxicosis by carbon monoxide, which damages the respiratory system, he said.

The Congress was opened Sunday evening by Mecca Deputy Governor Prince Saud bin Abdul Mohsen. Attending are representatives of 14 faculties of medicine in the Arab world and 59 in Europe, the United States, Canada, India, Pakistan, Thailand and Japan.

Delegates are to discuss 250 research papers including 50 by Saudi Arabian doctors. Monday's session was addressed by Prof. Robertson, former dean of the faculty of medicine from Washington University; Dr. Settler, secretary of the World Society for the Handicapped; Dr. Koshran, Riyadh Military Hospital; Prof. Abdulah Ba Salama, head of the maternity section of King Abdul Aziz University's faculty of medicine; and several other prominent medical doctors.

The speakers mainly dealt with pre-natal death and child deformities and the ways and means to prevent and treat them. They also took up the psychological problems faced by the families of handicapped children. A special session was devoted to cancer. It was addressed by Dr. Salah Saginder, dean of the Cancer Academy of Cairo University, who said breast cancer is common in the Arab world and the discussed methods to stop its advance. Other speakers included Dr. Abdul Fattah Al-Badawi from King Abdul Aziz University, who dealt with gland diseases in Saudi Arabia and preventive measures against cancer in the Eastern Province.

Kingdom gives extra \$5m

VIENNA, March 17 (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia has promised to give the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) an extra five million dollars this year to help save its education program, an agency spokesman said.

Even with this grant, which is in addition to Saudi Arabia's annual contribution of \$1.2 million, UNRWA still faced a \$29 million deficit for 1981 and might have to make some of its teachers redundant, he said.

The Saudi grant and a recent contribution of \$10 million from the United States would ensure that UNRWA schooling continued in the Eastern Province with a seven month construction period.

The Vienna-based agency, which plans to spend a total of \$230 million this year, has appealed to governments for extra funds to maintain its schools.

Mosque to be built

DAMMAM, March 17 (SA) — Contracts totalling SR1,275,000 were signed here for the construction of mosques in the Eastern Province with a seven month construction period.

According to Ibrahim Al-Saif, director general of endowments, the contracts call for the construction of the Eid (feast) mosque in Al-Oyun, the Eid mosque in Al-Marrah villages, Al-Assia mosque in Ahssa, and Ali Shah mosque.

Consumer protection ruling issued for product safety

RIYADH, March 17 (SPA) — The Commerce Ministry's Directorate General for Consumer Protection requested that date of manufacture and expiration date for electric insulation tape be mentioned on product packaging.

The directorate requested that chambers of commerce circulate the statement to electric appliance importers. The move is aimed at ensuring that tape on the markets is of the highest quality.

In a separate development, the Quality Control Laboratory of the Consumer Protection Directorate issued a report on its activities last month.

Ahmad Alawi Qassem, laboratory director, said a total of 2,200 different samples were analyzed at the laboratory last month. The samples are subjected to chemical and germs analysis to ensure that they are good for human consumption and free of prohibited and harmful substances.

The percentage of the rejected items from the analyzed samples amounted to nine per cent, Qassem said. Most of the frozen chicken samples analyzed did not comply with the specifications, he added. The percentage of liquids was higher than the allowed limit, and the expiration period specified by the pro-

duct's labels was longer than the admissible six months time. Qassem called on frozen chicken importers to comply with the standard specifications for chicken in future dealings.

In another statement, the directorate requested the Kingdom's chambers of commerce to inform cigar and tobacco importers to print a warning on tobacco merchandise.

The consumer protection directorate demanded that the label "Smoking is the major cause for lung cancer, other lung diseases, heart and artery illnesses" be put on every pack of cigarettes or other tobacco products.

The directorate also demanded that cigarettes containing more than 15 milligram of tar and 1 milligram of nicotine in one cigarette be banned.

It called on agents of cigarette importing companies to request certificates from the manufacturers stating the contents of tar and nicotine. The certificate should be endorsed by the Saudi Arabian embassy in the country of the manufacturing company.

The move is a result of the anti-smoking committee recommendations and resolutions for the Gulf Council of Health Ministers.



Dr. Ghazi Algoasibi

Irish group signs pact

RIYADH, March 17 (SPA) — Industry and Electricity Minister Dr. Ghazi Algoasibi, chairman of the Saudi Arabian consulting house, will sign cooperation agreement between the Irish Electricity Council and the consulting house.

The five-year agreement calls for the Irish council to make designs for power plants and electricity distribution networks in the Kingdom and supervise their construction. In addition, the council will present consultation in the field of electricity and handle training of nationals on electrical consulting works.

The agreement was approved by the Saudi Arabian consulting house during its meeting Sunday night. The meeting also endorsed the estimated budget for the house for the next fiscal year. The meeting, headed by Dr. Algoasibi, also reviewed the consulting house's activities, various engineering projects and industrial studies. The house's working plan for the next five years was also discussed at the meeting.

Group discusses welfare projects

QATIF, March 17 (SPA) — The National Social Services Committee discussed completing its programs and projects for this year.

The Qatif Social Services Center's family services program aids to 85 families. The program secures all the basic needs for the families. Other activities of the center include a social education program, and a program for looking after elderly people.

The center also organized a contest on Islamic culture and social development this week. Local clubs took part in the contest which was won by Kawkab club.

Ships readied for sea

JEDDAH, March 17 (SPA) — Saudi Maritime Shipping Company is preparing to put its first two ships into operation. The vessels were purchased from Kuwait.

The Kuwait Investment Company recently handed the Saudi firm two of the four Ro-Ro ships that were bought for \$48 million. The ships — *Saudi Riyadh* and *Saudi Mecca* — hold 35,000-ton capacity each and will shuttle between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

The new company is 100 per cent Saudi owned. One quarter of its shares are government-owned. The company is working on obtaining docking rights in various world ports as a national company.

Jizan irrigation work readied

JIZAN, March 17 (SPA) — Jizan valley's irrigation and agricultural development project will be dedicated within weeks, assistant project director Awwad Taher Sallam said. He added that the ministry took control of the first phase of the project three months ago.

Envoys hold talks

ABU DHABI, March 17 (SPA) — Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahayan, president of the United Arab Emirates, conferred here with Saudi Ambassador to the UAE Sheikh Muhammad Mansour Al-Rumaih. Talks dealt with bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, in Sanaa, Lt. Col. Ali Athrab, the interior minister of North Yemen, held a meeting Monday with Sheikh Trad Al-Harethi, the Saudi ambassador, on the means to foster bilateral cooperation.

Phase I will irrigate a 2,918 hectare area.

The second phase will irrigate more than 5,000 hectares and its designs are ready, Sallam said. He added that a pilot farm, which is part of the project, managed to plant new varieties which will soon become popular with farmers in the area. Some 39 farmers were trained to date at a training center under the project.

The project also provides a mobile workshop to fix agricultural equipment that malfunctions in the area. In addition, the ministry gives agricultural guidance to the farmers under a specific program. An economic survey undertaken to know whether new agricultural methods had led to increased revenues. An investigative study on farmers' standards and living conditions also will be studied.

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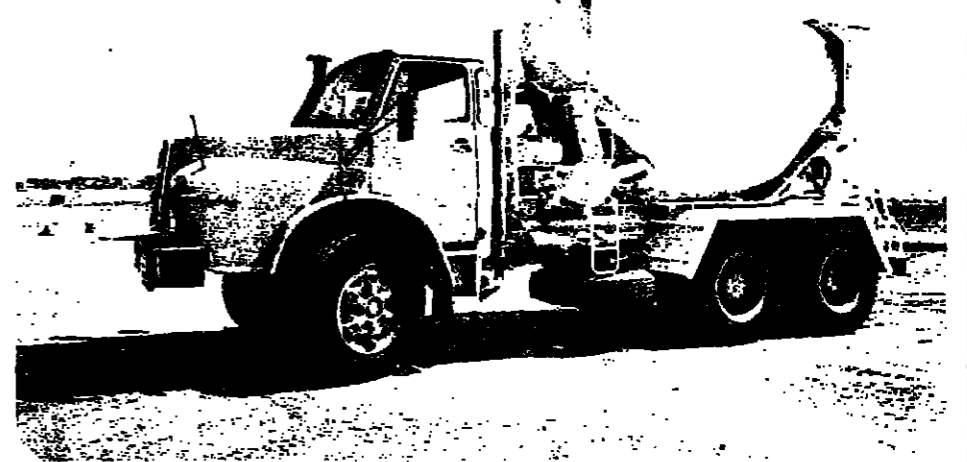
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As calm returns to Mauritania

Morocco denies role in abortive coup

RABAT, March 17 (Agencies) — Morocco has vigorously denied a charge by Mauritanian Premier Sid Ahmed Ould Bnei-jara that it was behind an unsuccessful attempt Monday to overthrow the Mauritanian government.

The attempt was foiled when a "suicide commando" led by two exiled Mauritanian colonels ran into violent resistance around the palace, the radio station and in the streets of the capital, Nouakchott. The colonels were arrested and an unknown number of persons were killed, Mauritanian officials said. Earlier reports had said that one of the colonels.

Khartoum bans sale of alcoholic drinks

KHARTOUM, March 17 — The sale and drink of alcoholic beverages in the clubs in the province of Khartoum, Sudan, has been prohibited by decree. Khartoum commissioner Sheikh Idris Manaa issued directions Sunday against the sale of alcoholic drinks in secular, social and cultural clubs in the province. He ordered the police and the authorities concerned to take action against the law-breakers. The latest decree and other orders have been issued in the eastern and western regions in the light of the state drive toward Islamization of laws in Sudan.

Palme to visit Iran, Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, March 17 (R) — Special United Nations envoy Olof Palme, who has been trying to secure a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, will make another trip to the area, probably next week, a U.N. spokesman said.

Palme, a former Swedish Prime Minister, has already made three trips to the area and talked to government leaders in Baghdad and Tehran. Iran has refused to consider a ceasefire while Iraqi troops remain on its territory.

Egypt giving arms to Habre forces

CAIRO, March 17 (R) — Egypt has officially confirmed for the first time that it was supplying arms to Hissane Habre's forces in the Chad civil war. Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali told a press conference Monday that Egyptian supplies were being channelled to the army of former Chad Defense Minister Hissane Habre fighting the Libyan-backed forces of President Goukouni Queddei.

Asked for details of the Egyptian supplies, the foreign minister said he was not prepared to "tell secrets". According to Western diplomats here, the supplies have largely

Muhammad Ould Abdul Kader, had died in the attack, but Mauritanian Information Minister Ahmedou Oule Sidi Henena said later that the colonel swallowed a dose of poison when he was arrested, but that doctors at a Nouakchott hospital managed to save his life.

His comrade, Lt. Col. Ahmad Salem Ould Sidi, was also arrested. Mauritanian radio said. Moroccan officials, quoted by the official MAP news agency, expressed their "profound indignation" at Premier Bnei-jara's charges that the coup attempt was masterminded by Rabat. They said there was no proof of any such complicity.

Meanwhile, calm has been restored in the Mauritanian capital. "The situation is entirely in the hands of our forces," an official government statement broadcast on the radio said. "The commando-suicide has been annihilated."

In Paris, well-informed French sources said fighting in the city center was fierce and Mauritanian government forces appeared to have captured a large number of prisoners. Relations between Mauritania and Morocco have been strained since August 1979 when Mauritania withdrew from its zone in the Western Sahara and stopped waging war with Morocco against the Algerian-backed Polisario movement.

and Iraq has refused to withdraw until its territorial claims have been recognized.

Regarding Palme's efforts to secure safe passage, under the Red Cross flag of more than 60 merchant ships trapped by the fighting in the Shatt Al-Arab waterway, the spokesman said Monday one obstacle remained. U.S. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim therefore was sending Assistant Secretary-General Diego Cordovez, from Ecuador, to the area this week to try to help resolve the problem.

been small arms and ammunition. Ali said Egypt had consulted Western governments, primarily France, about its role in the long-running Chad civil war. He denied that Egyptian military advisers were serving with the Habre forces.

Egypt has strongly denounced Libya's intervention in Chad and has repeatedly declared it will send troops to help Sudan if Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi commits any form of aggression against that country, which borders Chad.

South Yemen protests U.S. bases in Gulf

ADEN, March 17 (AP) — President Ali Nasser Muhammad of South Yemen has said the presence of American military "bases" in the region threaten the security and stability of the area.

As a result, the foreign ministry presented an official memorandum to the secretary general of the Arab League explaining the serious developments taking place because of the alleged American and Egyptian military maneuvers in Oman, he said.

The memorandum pointed to the "aggressive encroachments" of the Omani forces across the eastern borders of Yemen at the time of American, Omani and Egyptian military maneuvers. South Yemen urged the Arab League to condemn the maneuvers by the countries. Meanwhile, South Yemeni defense minister said that Yemeni armed forces are to respond to "anyone daring to harm our sacred homeland and would teach the aggressor more tough lessons."

U.S. envoy meets Ali

CAIRO, March 17 (AP) — America's ambassador to Cairo met with Egypt's foreign minister Monday to prepare for the April visit of the U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Ambassador Alfred L. Atherton held talks with Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali. Haig is due here the first week of April as part of a Middle East tour, his first as secretary of state.

BRIEFS

TEL AVIV, (AP) — Israel has told the United States it will destroy two major air bases in the Sinai due to be handed over to Egypt if Cairo refuses to hand them over to Washington to meet U.S. strategic needs, the Israeli press reported Tuesday.

TEL AVIV, (AP) — Egypt has demanded that the West German government put a stop to a missile testing project being conducted by a German company in Libya, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali was quoted Tuesday as saying.

MANAMA, (AP) — Bahrain and Australia agreed Monday to upgrade their trade relations, and the Australian deputy prime minister and minister for trade and resources said there was room for broader cooperation between his country and the Gulf states.

TEL AVIV, (AP) — Israel's 58,000 teachers held a partial strike Monday, closing elementary and secondary schools early to protest government stalling in implementing a wage agreement signed 11 days ago.

UNIFIL not to withdraw forces

UNITED NATIONS, March 17 (R) — Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim says he does not intend asking for a United Nations troops withdrawal from Southern Lebanon, despite an artillery barrage which killed two Nigerian soldiers and wounded many others in the peacekeeping force.

In his report to the Security Council on Monday's bombardment in the village of Kantara, blamed by a U.N. spokesman on the Israeli backed Lebanese militia. Waldheim

said the incident was an affront to the Security Council. In a reference to a troop pull-out, he said: "I do not propose this drastic step because I am convinced that the withdrawal of UNIFIL (United Nations Force in Lebanon) would lead to an immediate and violent escalation of the conflict in South Lebanon, with disastrous consequences and unpredictable and widespread repercussions which, would constitute a major threat to international peace and security."

Some 58 UNIFIL soldiers have been killed since the force was sent there three years ago following an Israeli invasion. U.N. Security Council members are holding private consultations, and although members have condemned the rightist militia attack, no formal statement has yet been issued.

Diplomatic sources said there was a disagreement about the wording of a formal Security Council statement on the attack.

BRANCH OPENING

YESTERDAY, 17 March 1981, the Saudi British Bank opened its 4th branch in Riyadh — in Olaya. The official opening was conducted by Sheikh Mohamed Abdulkarim Al-Loheidan, a director of the Bank and was witnessed by members of the Bank's senior management.

The Branch Manager, Mohamed Abdulla Al Khayal, previously manager of the Bank's Sharia Dabaab Branch became an executive officer of the bank in 1980 after a period of training with the Bank in Saudi Arabia and also with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Hong Kong.

The Saudi British Bank's branch, in Olaya, is the first to be opened this year as part of the Bank's expansion programme following a year of consolidation involving strengthening of its infrastructure through creation and development of support services, including a new training centre in Riyadh, to assist the improvement of operational efficiency.

A unique feature of the new branch is that all its accounting system will be handled by computer and customers will benefit from the speed and accuracy made possible by automated procedures.

The Managing Director said that the opening of this latest branch showed that the Saudi British Bank remains dedicated to its fundamental goal to contribute towards, and to play a positive part in the economic development of the Kingdom by continually improving and extending its services to the community.

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SWEDISH TECHNICAL WEEK

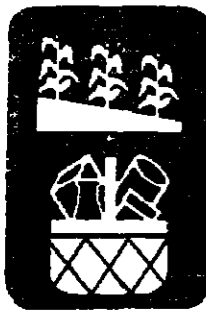
21-25 March 1981
at Riyadh Intercontinental Hotel

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

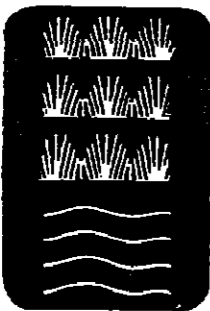
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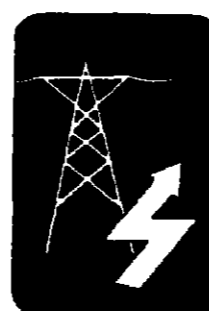
ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY



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HEALTH & MEDICAL CARE



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TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

The Swedish Minister for Industry, H.E. MR. NILS G. ASLING will officiate at the opening ceremony on March 21.

For further information please contact:

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THE SYMPOSIUM SECRETARIAT

As panel studies dispute

Khomeini supports Bani-Sadr

TEHRAN, March 17 (R) — President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr Tuesday appeared to have won at least a partial victory in his struggle with Iranian government leaders, following powerful backing from Ayatollah Khomeini. "As I appointed the president commander-in-chief of the armed forces, everybody should recognize him in the post and commanders of the armed forces must obey him," said Ayatollah Khomeini in a statement read Monday night on state television.

Ignoring calls for the president's dismissal or for someone else to conduct the war against Iraq, the Ayatollah set up a three-man committee to study the current disputes, comprising a representative of Bani-Sadr, one from "the other side" and one from his own office. By doing so, he implicitly recognized Bani-Sadr as a counterweight to the clergy who dominate virtually all other state organs, including the judiciary, the Majlis (parliament), the Islamic Republican Party (IRP) and the supreme constitutional watchdog guardianship council.

Khomeini called on officials and prayer leaders to work together to calm the atmosphere and to avoid speeches that could cause unrest. In an evident rebuke to all sides, he said "the president, the prime minister, the head of the supreme court and the speaker of

the Majlis had better not give speeches until the end of the war."

The 80-year-old Ayatollah was moving to resolve a dispute which, after simmering for several months, boiled over following factional fighting at a rally addressed by Bani-Sadr March 5. Seeing that neither side would let the issue die down, the Komeini called the president, Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Rajai, his predecessor Mehdi Bazargan and four leading pro-IRP clergymen to a meeting Monday morning in a Tehran mosque.

Having heard their views, Khomeini Monday night issued his 10-point peace plan.

This confirmed all senior officeholders in their posts but forbade them to interfere in each other's spheres of responsibility and reminded them that none of them stood above the constitution. "Nobody is allowed to insult or weaken them and anybody who does so will be investigated and denounced," said the Ayatollah's statement.

In this context, he empowered the three-man committee to monitor the mass media, which has played a prominent role in the conflict, and to inform the prosecutor-general of anything that appeared harmful. Throughout his statement, the Ayatollah avoided moving to the level of party politics from his position as a symbol of national unity.

He made it clear that he did not intend to abandon Bani-Sadr in favor of the clergy, whose running of the government has raised doubts over their competence, especially in the economic sector.

But his 10 points all stressed national unity and constitutional legality, making it difficult for any side to object to them. Iranian observers said the statement was likely to cool the political temperature, at least for the time being.

Meanwhile, Khomeini's grandson said Monday that 90 per cent of the clergy supported Bani-Sadr. Hussain Khomeini said in an interview with the Islamic revolution newspaper, which Bani-Sadr owns, that the president was "the last hope of the republic."

Khomeini, who is himself a clergyman, repudiated his past support for the Islamic Republican Party (IRP) and said: "Ninety per cent of the Iranian clergy are in favor of Bani-Sadr but they have been pushed aside. A minority of the clergy have become the rulers, introducing themselves as the representatives of the whole clergy."

The grandson said: "Most clergymen are dissatisfied with the present situation as they see the wrongs done in their name... They must not remain silent any longer." He said that events had shown that the clergymen controlling the IRP were unable to run the country. He referred to their record in increasing economic dependency, the brain drain and Iran's budget deficit, estimated to have drained its reserves by \$11 billion in the past year.

To remain in power, he said, "their main plan is to portray the Imam (Ayatollah Khomeini) as one of themselves and to put him and Bani-Sadr face to face.... The nation and all of us (the clergy) are happy that the Imam has not given up his support for Bani-Sadr yet..."



WAITING FOR AYATOLLAH: Iranian leaders waiting for the Ayatollah Khomeini at a Tehran mosque Monday. Seen in the picture (right to left) are the chief justice of the supreme court, Ayatollah Muhammad Beheshti, the speaker Hojatolislam Rafsanjani, Mehdi Bazargan, Majlis deputy, President Bani-Sadr and Masavi Ardebili, prosecutor-general of the republic.

After talks with Thatcher on M.E.

U.S. fears calmed on European peace plan

By Leonard Downie

WASHINGTON, March 17 (WP) — The Reagan administration appears to be less antagonistic than was the Carter administration to the continuing effort by Western Europe to search independently in the Middle East for new approaches to the Palestinian problem.

Detailed discussion of the European initiative in the Middle East by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Minister Lord Carrington in their talks with President Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig recently calmed official concern here that the European effort could conflict with what Reagan eventually decides to do about the deadlocked American-sponsored Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on Palestinian autonomy, according to both British and American officials.

"The talks cleared away a certain amount of misunderstanding," said a well-informed British official. Reporting that Haig said he recognized there was a role for Europe to play in the search for peace in the Middle East, the official added that the British found "a little more openness" on this question in their talks with the Reagan administration.

A senior State Department official said that by the end of the discussion of the Middle East by British and American officials, "perceptions on both sides had changed somewhat" and it appeared that the European and American efforts in the Middle East were "manageable and integratable."

"Both sides have a better understanding now," the State Department official said. "The U.S. realizes that the (European) Common Market countries have a vital interest in peace in the Middle East and the British now understand that we are concerned that what they do should be complimentary and not cut across what the U.S. decides to do next."

Haig told British reporters traveling with Thatcher that their talks "clearly indicated that the objectives of European involvement in (the Mideast) coincide with our own objectives in the broad sense of the term."

Thatcher and other European officials said they do not expect the Reagan administration to do about the Arab-Israeli impasse until after the Israeli elections in June.

Meanwhile, the Dutch Foreign Minister Christopher Van Der Klaauw representing the European Common Market nations, will be touring the Middle East seeking reaction to a 30-page West European draft of optional approaches to the Arab-Israeli and Palestinian problems.

A senior British official stressed that the confidential draft prepared by some parts of which have leaked to the press, contains "a very wide range of options" being offered for discussion with leaders of Middle East nations and the Palestinians "to see where a degree of consensus can be built."

Among these options, which have stirred increased opposition to the European effort by Israel and some strongly pro-Israeli advisers to the Reagan administration, are withdrawal of Israeli troops and settlements from all Arab territory occupied since 1967, dividing Jerusalem between Israel and Jordan or putting East Jerusalem under some form of international control, and having all of the former Arab inhabitants of Palestine vote in a referendum on whether they want an independent Palestinian state outside Israel's 1967 borders or be federated with either Israel or Jordan.

"This is not a cut and dried proposal or plan," a British official said. "The (European) community is not committed to any particular course of action."

After Van Der Klaauw completes his consultations with Middle East leaders, he will report back to the leaders of the Common Market countries who could then take further action at one of their regularly-scheduled summit meetings this summer. In a declaration on the Middle East at a summit last year in Venice, the West European leaders laid down two principles they believed essential for a peace settlement: recognition of the Palestinian right to self-determination in some form and recognition by the Palestinians, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, of Israel's right to exist within secure borders. The European leaders also said it was necessary for the PLO to be involved, along with other representatives of the Palestinians, in negotiations on the Palestinians' future.

Carrington, who said recently that he would not rule out meeting personally with PLO leader Yasser Arafat, repeated during his visit here that "It isn't any good ignoring the facts of life," such as the PLO's representation of a large number of Palestinians. He pointed out that if Britain had ignored third-world leaders like Kenyatta in Kenya, Makarios in Cyprus or Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe, it would have been unable to make progress in solving those colonial problems.

American diplomats see the European initiative as primarily an effort to curry favor with Arab countries in the Middle East who provide Western Europe much of its energy and one of its major export markets. European diplomats say their effort is necessary to prevent total estrangement from the West of moderate Arab leaders who believe the Carter administration's Camp David peace process has reached a dead end and the U.S. remains insensitive to the rights of the Palestinians.

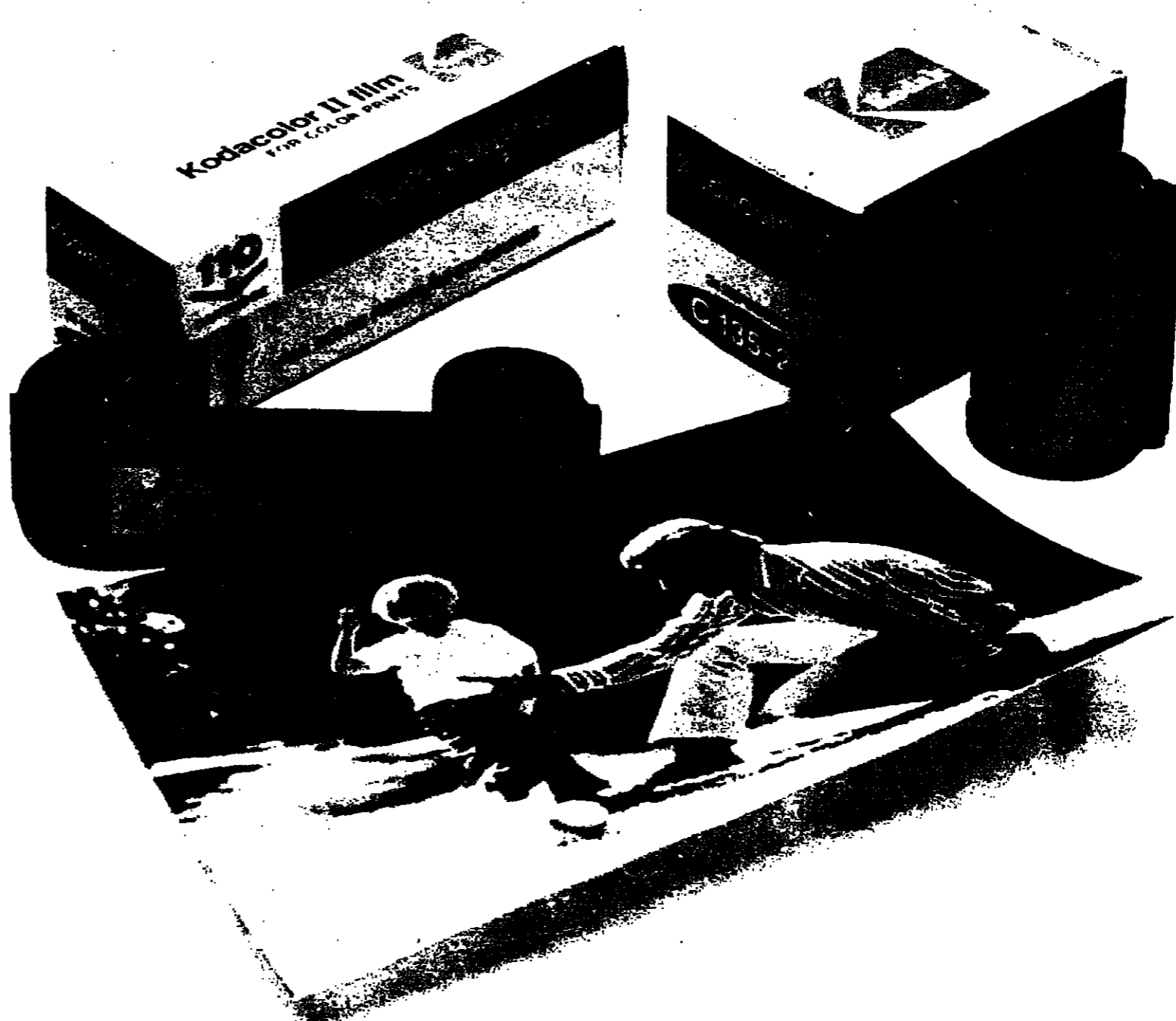
Neither American nor European diplomats expect the European effort to produce any dramatic results before the Israeli elections or the Reagan administration's formulation of its policy on the Arab-Israeli impasse and the Palestinian problem. French sources, who stress the unusual European "convergence" and close cooperation inside the Common Market on this issue, speculate that the Reagan administration may eventually be persuaded to move U.S. policy closer to the European perception that any comprehensive peace plan for the Middle East requires satisfaction of Palestinian self-determination.

Noting the Reagan administration's recently-announced shift of priorities in the Middle East from former President Carter's Camp David negotiations between Egypt and Israel on Palestinian autonomy to "the deteriorating position of the West vis-a-vis the Soviet Union" in that region, one senior French official said "Our very strong view is that there is only one way he can stop Soviet penetration in that part of the world, and that is by solving the Palestinian problem."

Asked about official American skepticism that the Europeans can ever accomplish much with their initiative, particularly so long as it is strongly opposed by Israel, French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet said at the end of his consultations with the Reagan administration here recently that "I don't think the countries of the Middle East can ignore the position of a united Europe."

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SCIENCE FAIR: A science fair was held at Dhahran Academy recently. Nearly, 550 exhibits, ranging from aerodynamics to volcanoes, were on display. Photo shows a general view of the exhibition.

Enlightening science fair at Dhahran academy

By Jean Grant

AL KHOBAR — Vicki Streeter used to believe that talking to your plants made them grow faster and better. No longer. After experimenting, she discovered that the two she whispered sweet nothings to made no progress while the couple she spoke nary a word to flourished.

A more practical-minded student wanted to know the best antacid "in case I ever get an upset stomach." He disproved his own hypothesis that Alka Seltzer was best because it was so popular when another brand, Rioplus, "took more vinegar to turn from blue to light purple" in his experiment.

These were two of the 550 exhibits in the science fair at Dhahran Academy, March 9-11. Displays in 30 categories ranged from aerodynamics to volcanoes. Max the scientific warthog was the fair's mascot; 20-foot banners with science slogans decorated the school gymnasium, site of the fair. Next to a quote by Goethe ("Science and art belong to the whole world and national barriers vanish before them") was an equally long banner with a Dhahran Academy student's definition of science as: "the fun fizz fusion of atoms in the air. It is the stars, sun, and satellites of our world and universe."

Many experiments reflected the Saudi Arabian scene. For her project on products of petroleum, Fiona Burness displayed a jar of oil, murky and black, from the Abu Hadriya Well No. 8 extracted from a depth of 10,070 feet. Not too far from models of oil rigs were collections of scorpions, cacti and bugs. Joe Cordell had a fine display of Saudi Arabian seashells and Jason Bailey, a 9-year-old rock hound, won a ribbon for his collection of Saudi Arabian rocks.

An interest in bones and nutrition led junior high student Demetra to study the effect of various liquids on bones. After putting chicken bones into separate jars of Pepsi, coffee, and lemon juice, and observing that the Pepsi made the bones thinner, coffee hardened them and lemon juice bleached them, she concluded "some liquids are good for

your bones and some are bad." Solar energy projects were popular with miniature solar houses, furnaces, cookers and even a solar plane for cloudless days. Besides, a solar water purification plant was the apologetic sign, "Sorry, cannot demonstrate because of a leak."

Health-conscious youngsters illustrated the dangers of smoking, alcohol, and narcotics. In an ingenious experiment, Judy Wood asked her father, an average smoker, to use only one ash tray in the house. Over it she installed two jars, one sealed at the bottom, the other open. After three weeks, the sealed jar was still clean, but the sides of the jar where the cigarette smoke could enter were coated a grayish-black color. "I hope I have encouraged many smokers including my father to stop smoking and live a long life," she wrote.

Julie Haldeman took some of the mystery out of orthodontia with her display of "proper tooth eruption." Since several students now wear or face the prospect of wearing braces or retainers on their teeth, her models of teeth in gums, X-rays, and dental tools had many interested viewers.

Thirty judges recruited from local universities and schools spent a day awarding the blue, red and white ribbons to the 71 elementary and 130 junior high students. It wasn't easy. One incredulous father asked a judge, "I worked three weeks on that project with my son; how could it not have won a prize?" All students, even the one who confided in his report that it was "a bit plagiarish (SIC)" received a certificate for entry.

There were class as well as individual projects on the old childhood favorites like dinosaurs and volcanoes. Mrs. Gaw's and Mrs. Hadley's kindergarteners made windmills and sailboats to show wind movement. Strom's fifth grade class presented *Pigeon Facts*. Did you know that the carrier pigeon is now extinct; that both pigeon parents feed their young from their mouth; or that there are nearly 300 types of wild pigeons? Coining over this section of the fair were three live pigeons, two of whom were also proud par-

ents of a fledging, hatched the day before the fair began and shyly hiding in the cage out of eyesight of the curious onlookers. The pigeons obediently marched into their cage when the teacher clapped his hands, a trick more easily taught to pigeons than to boys and girls.

"When this fair is over," one student was heard to say, "I'm going to burn my project, throw it off the balcony, or just step on it." But once their wares were displayed, most students took pride in their projects as well as surprise at the ingenuity of their classmates. "Now why didn't I think of that?" fussed a couple on seeing on Abqaiq student's award-winning experiment which studied the effect of candles' color on their burning time.

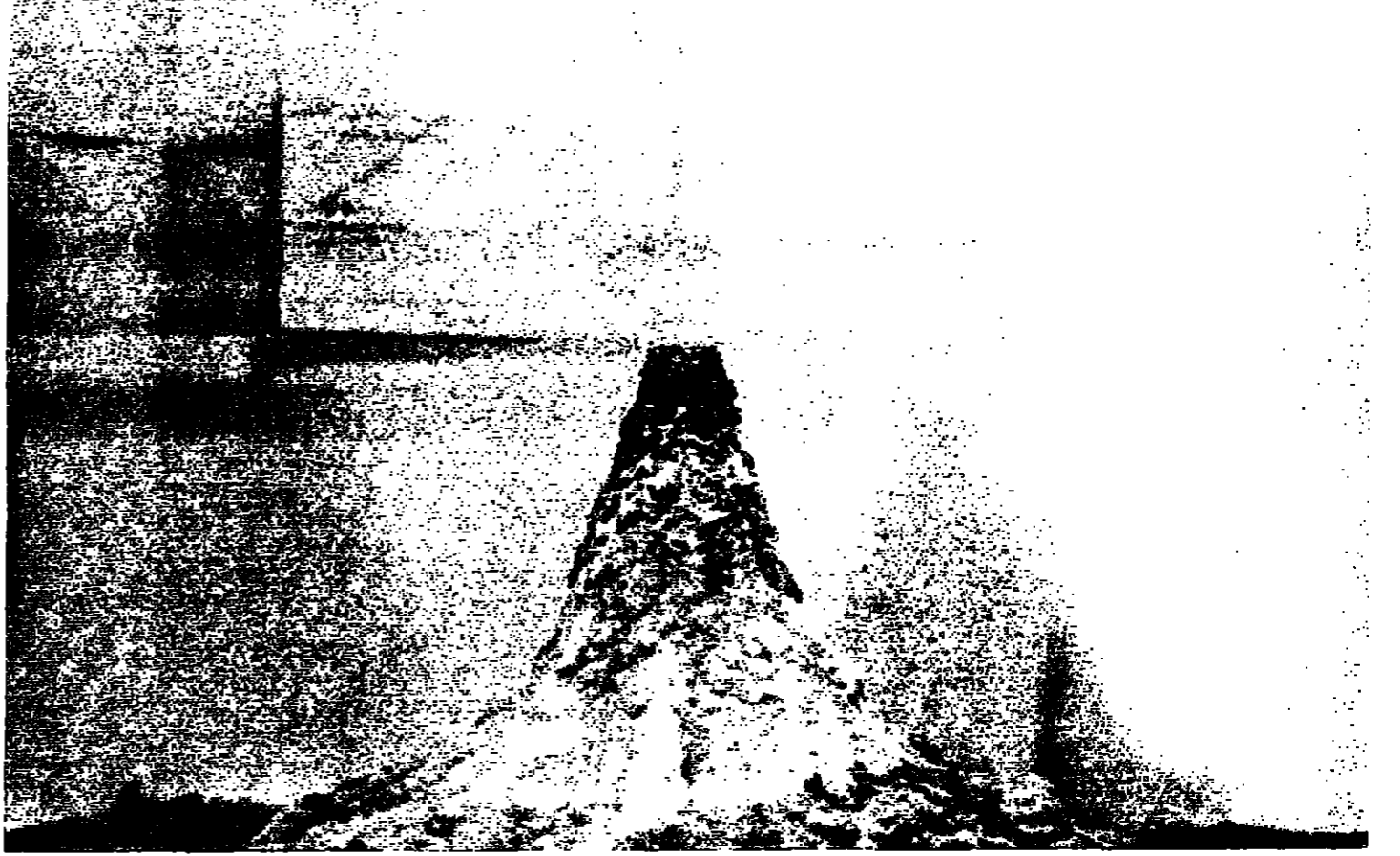
"Hands off the experiments" was the rule of the fair. The 7-year-old Christer Berggnist gazing at a pickled sand viper and a frog expertly dissected by Sharmanthi Fernando, complained: "It's hard not to touch. It looks so interesting." When a little lass spied a collection of crystals against black velvet, she gasped, "Look, diamonds!" Another was intrigued by "The Plumbing System of a Flower," which showed how flowers can be dyed various colors.

"Don't eat the displays," joked a teacher as he led his class around a selection of mold gardens and several plates of cheeses in various degrees of spoilage. The ribbon winner decided to investigate the relations between the temperature at which cheese is kept and its spoilage. Gourmets take note of his conclusion that the best temperature for your cheese is 40 degrees F or refrigerator temperature, and not the coldest possible temperature as the budding scientist had first hypothesized.

"The idea of the science fair germinated last spring" explained Bill Parks, master of ceremonies at the awards presentation, March 9. "Its purpose was to encourage students to develop their own creative ideas. Each participant selected a topic, and researched it, preparing an outline and display." With its wealth of exhibits, the fair was the talk of the town among expats in Khobar.



INTEREST: Children, who thronged the science fair, evincing keen interest in one of the exhibits.



VOLCANO: A replica of volcano which was exhibited at the science fair.

Masterpieces gather dust in bank vault

PARIS, (AFP) — The epilogue to a wartime tragedy will be staged here on March 20 with the auction of paintings by modern masters, part of a lost fortune which lay hidden in a Paris bank vault for 40 years. The art works were deposited at the Societe Generale Bank in 1940 by a Yugoslav jew, Eric Shlomovich.

who was arrested by the Nazis in 1943 and executed in Bosnia.

The bank obtained a court order to open the safe deposit coffer last November, after four decades of non-payment of rental fees for the vault. At that time, it was not even

optimistic that the unknown contents of the coffer would cover the back charges owed on the Shlomovich account. But it did recognize treasure trove when the opened vault revealed undamaged works by Cezanne, Derain, Matisse, Picasso, Renoir, Rouault and Degas, along with a collection of illustrated books, photographs, and signed manuscripts.

After the sale at the prestigious Salle Drouot auction rooms, the Societe Generale will be reimbursed for its expenses, but the remainder of the fortune will be put into a blocked account — to be paid over to the French state after 30 years if no heir has presented a claim.

A preliminary assessment of the "buried treasure" indicates that the crown jewel may be Andre Derain's *Cork oaks near Collioure*, which experts place as one of the works exhibited at the 1905 Paris salon at which a critic coined the term "fauves."

Other works likely to draw high bids include: Henri Matisse's *Standing guitar player*, dated 1903; a Pablo Picasso pen-and-watercolor study of two nudes in front of a curtain, clearly attributable to the late stage of the artist's pink period and Paul Cezanne's 1861 *Portrait of Zola*. Also to be auctioned are engravings and lithographs by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Cezanne, Georges Rouault, Picasso and Edgar Degas. Most of the art treasures stem from the collection of Ambroise Vollard, the editor and art-dealer.

Vollard apparently became friendly with Eric Shlomovich in the late 1930 and introduced the young Yugoslav to the leading artists of the period. Thanks to these contacts Shlomovich built up an impressive collection, part of which was transferred to Belgrade.

When Ambroise Vollard died in an accident in 1939, Shlomovich hit on the idea of organizing a "collective homage" to the dealer. The contributions he received included unpublished work by such painters, sculptors, poets and architects as Chagall, Rouault, Matisse, Eluard and Le Corbusier. Vollard's brother Lucien turned over some books and lithographs, and above all canvases which had been kept off the market — including the highly rated works by Derain and Matisse. But World War II broke out and Shlomovich left France — leaving the collection in the Societe Generale vault — to return to his homeland and his death.



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Despite criticism

U.S. favors review of sea law treaty

UNITED NATIONS, March 17 (AP) — Under attack by many nations, the United States has stuck by its position that the seven-year-old U.N. conference on the law of the sea should give up the goal it set last year of completing a general sea law treaty at its current 10th session.

U.S. delegate Bernard Oxman told the conference steering committee Monday that his government could decide its next step only after a thorough review of the pending text and hoped to discuss with other delegations "the most appropriate time for the next session of the conference."

He said the United States had "no hidden agenda and no list of changes" and could make decisions only "after a thorough review of the text and its history, including part nine in particular" — which would require private corporations to share seabed mining with an international authority and subject their operations to regulation by the authority.

Conference President Tommy Koh of Singapore, from the chair, said the "group of 77" developing countries — currently numbering 121 — had told him that until the United States clarified its position on the treaty, that group would not negotiate with the United States on the protection the latter wants for any private investment in mineral exploration undertaken before the treaty goes into effect.

With one week of the session gone and the session set to last another five or six weeks, Koh proposed, and the committee agreed, that the conference should plan only two weeks ahead. He said if the United States could complete its review in those two weeks, negotiations might still be possible at the current session.

Koh also said the United States delegation should be pressed to stick to the objective the conference had set of finishing the treaty this session. "I am not prepared," he said, "to admit defeat until at least a later point of time."

But Alfonso Arias Schreiber of Peru said the U.S. review might take so long that the conference could not finish its work at the current session. Olara Otunnu of Uganda expressed "deep regret" at the United States' decision to review the whole draft.

Paul Bamela Engo of Cameroon said: "We cannot afford to look like children playing games before the international public." Muhammed Haj Hamoud of Iraq appealed to the United States to work with other delegations to finish the treaty at the current session.

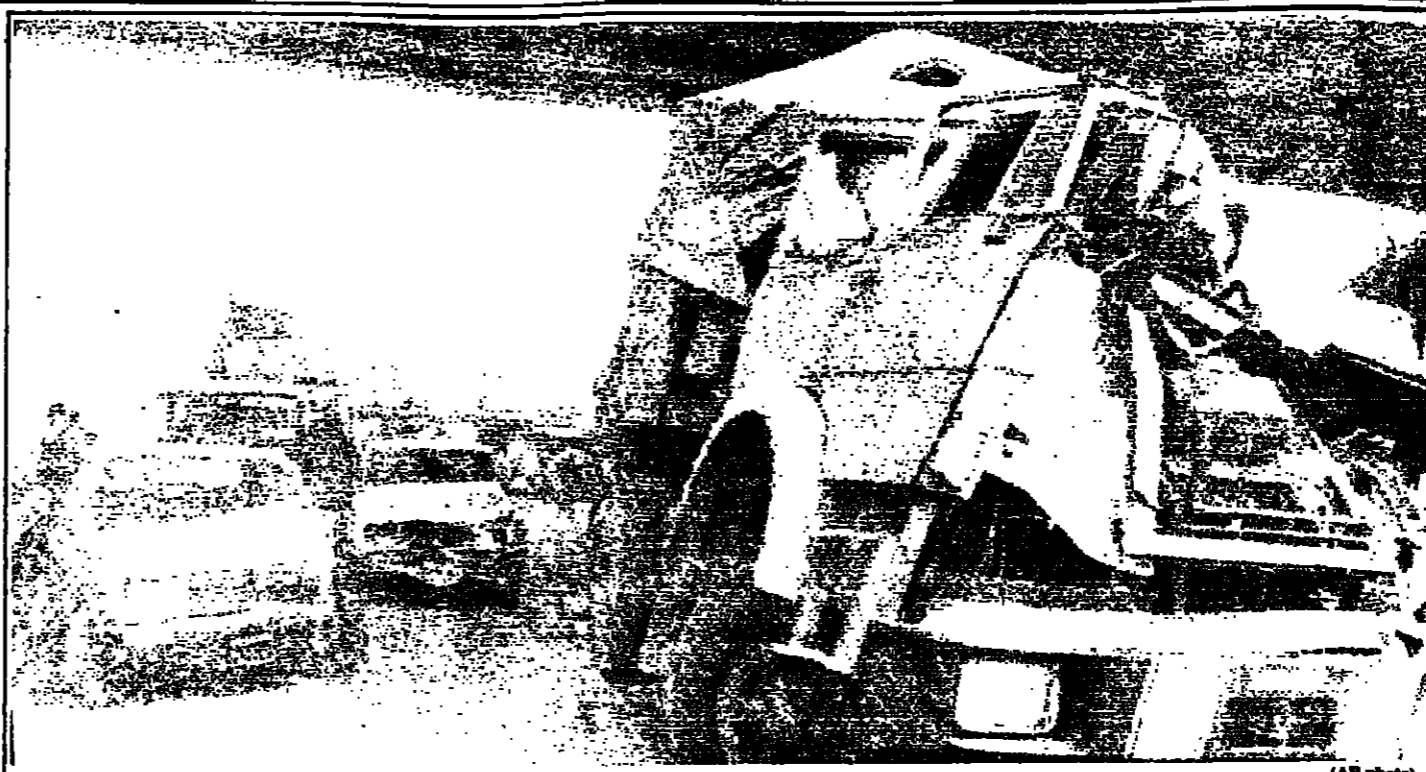
Transplant patient enters crucial period

STANFORD, California March 17 (AP) — Heart-lung transplant patient Mary Gohlke is entering the most crucial period of her recovery when the body is most likely to reject its new organs. "She is just now getting to the point where the first signs of rejection would show up, about a week to 10 days after the transplant," said Laura Hofstetter, a Stanford University medical center spokesman Monday.

The heart and lungs of 15-year-old Robert Jones, who died in a bicycle-car accident, have kept Mrs. Gohlke alive since the operation March 9. Mrs. Gohlke, 45, a newspaper executive from Mesa, Arizona, has been listed in critical but stable condition since the surgery.

Her operation was the first heart-lung transplant performed in a decade. The patients in all three previous attempts died, the longest surviving 23 days.

The next three months are considered "the most critical" period, when the body's immune system is most likely to fight new organs that it considers invaders, Hofstetter said. "The danger of rejection is never over," she said.



CHAIN COLLISION: Dozens of cars, trucks and buses lie piled up on a highway near the northern Italian town of Parma Thursday morning after a massive chain collision in the early morning fog. Three persons were killed and some 20 injured in the accident. (AP photo)

American boy scores over masters

PRINCETON, New Jersey, March 17 (AP) — A high school junior who hosted a panel of 16 college professors on a geometry question has forced the U.S. Educational Testing Service to correct the scores of 250,000 students who took a college board test.

"It's kind of overwhelming," said Daniel Lowen, a 17-year-old honors student in ninth and German at Cocoa Beach high school. "I didn't expect it to be such a big thing when I wrote in. I was just worried about my own score." Lowen was one of 1.3 million students who took the preliminary scholastic aptitude test (PSAT) in October. When Lowen received his results in late December, he noticed he had been marked wrong on a geometry problem involving two pyramids. "It never entered my mind that they had made a mistake," Lowen said Monday. But he sat down his father, an engineer, and the two became convinced the boy's original answer was correct. They wrote to ETS and found out they were right.

The question asked how many sides there would be in a figure made by tacking two pyramids, one with a three-sided base and one with a four-sided base. ETS said seven, but the Lowens argued for five.

The ETS said it would increase the scores of 250,000 other students who answered five instead of seven, but would not penalize those who chose seven. The PSAT is a warm-up for the scholastic aptitude test, a college entrance examination.

Namibians hope for turn in U.S. policy on Africa

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — A delegation from a south African-backed group in Southwest Africa (Namibia) has said that "vibrations" from the administration of President Ronald Reagan lead it to believe that the United States may switch support from a black-led insurgent movement to its group. If so, it would mark a major turn in U.S. policy toward Africa and would risk the anger of black-led countries as well as the United Nations and most of the United States' European allies.

The State Department said the administration hasn't yet decided its policy toward mineral-rich Namibia. Spokesman William Dyess said the department tried to discourage the visit by the delegation at the present time.

But Dirk Mudge, the head of a government recognized only by South Africa which controls the territory, said at a news conference Monday that if the delegation waited, it would be too late to influence administration policy.

In what he said was a hopeful sign of a changed policy, he quoted the State Department as saying in a recent letter that it wants to hear his group's views at a later date. He and other members of the delegation contended this is a change in itself after years of U.S. and international ostracism.

"They are prepared to talk to us at a later stage. That's extremely important," said Peter Kalangula, a black who claimed the letter represented "a new position." A State Department official, who did not want to be identified, confirmed such a letter was sent, but didn't think it represented a significant change from U.S. policy. "However, I can't

speak for any nuance they care to perceive in this," he said.

Black leaders in Africa, including the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO), the main black opposition group in Namibia, contend the Mudge government is a front for South African interests and is being used by them to delay Namibian independence and self-rule for its black population.

SWAPO and South African military forces have been at war in the territory for 14 years. Mudge contended that without the support of Cuba, the Soviet Union and East Germany, SWAPO would have been "completely defeated long ago."

Meanwhile, a group of 132 Americans, including some of the nation's leading black leaders, sent a letter to President Reagan Monday urging him against a shift in Namibia previous U.S. administrations have supported U.N. policies aimed at ending South Africa's control.

Refugees flee Laos

BANGKOK, March 17 (AP) — The number of refugees fleeing Laos increased threefold in February compared with the January exodus from that country. The latest statistics of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) put the February figure at 4,823. In January, the number of Laotian refugees fleeing to Thailand was 1,416.

Altogether a total of 8,833 Indochinese — including 4,010 Vietnamese boat people — left their home countries in February. The January total was 7,263.

Uganda denies massacre report

KAMPALA, Uganda, March 17 (AP) — The Uganda government has denied a report in a pro-government newspaper that poorly trained militiamen went Berserk in the east Madi district of northeast Uganda and massacred several thousand Madi tribesmen.

Minister of State for Defense Peter Orai said Sunday that the story published last Wednesday in *The Uganda Times* was "wild and dangerous" and could "draw" the country in deeper troubles and hardships.

Actress asks U.S. Congress to help Third World children

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — Actress Liv Ullmann has urged the U.S. Congress to increase U.S. contributions to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to feed sick and starving youngsters around the world.

"Misery is not faceless," she told a House of Representative Foreign Affairs Subcommittee Monday. "Misery is one little child crying because it hurts to be hungry." The actress, goodwill ambassador for the children's fund, said 30,000 children under the age of four die every day.

"I'm challenging you all as citizens of the world to make a commitment to yourself and the people you represent to make every effort possible to provide the victims of the Third World with the opportunity to become people with a future," she said.

Miss Ullmann, who was born in Japan of Norwegian parents, said Sweden contributed \$35 million to UNICEF last year to America's \$34 million or \$4.90 per person for

Nyerere visits Japan

TOKYO, March 17 (Agencies) — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere arrived here Tuesday on a one-week official visit to Japan. Foreign Minister Sahim Ahmed Salim and Finance Minister Amir Habib Jamal were among the five ministers accompanying Nyerere and his wife.

Nyerere is to visit Emperor Hirohito Wednesday at the Imperial Palace, and is scheduled for a meeting with Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki later in the day. A discussion of economic relations between the two countries is expected to take the major part of their discussion.

Japan has maintained friendly relations with Tanzania since the latter became independent in 1961, and Japan's economic assistance has been steadily increasing.

President Nyerere and his party will visit Osaka, Japan's second largest city, and the ancient capital cities of Nara and Kyoto, western Japan, during the weekend. The group will go to China, North Korea and India Sunday before returning home.

During his four-hour transit at Victoria Monday, the Tanzanian head of state conferred with Seychelles President France-Albert Rene and called for the further development of bilateral relations at both party and state levels. Referring to a proposal to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, Nyerere said one way of discouraging big-power rivalry in the region was "not to allow the major powers any facilities in our waters or on our soil."

According to an editorial in the Tanzanian government newspaper *Daily News*, "the four countries that Nyerere will visit 'have special relations with Tanzania.'"

Sweden and 16 cents person for the United States.

If the United States matched Sweden's \$4.90 per person, its contribution would have been \$900 million, she said. "This would revolutionize aid," she said. "And it would do something else. Others would follow."

Miss Ullmann testified at a hearing on President Ronald Reagan's proposal to cut the voluntary portion of U.S. contributions to international organizations to \$215 million, a \$33 million cut from former President Jimmy Carter's request.

Former Attorney General Elliot Richardson, testifying as chairman of the United Nations Association, a private group, called Reagan's proposed contributions "minimal."

He said U.S. efforts to achieve an East-West nuclear balance are "only half a policy," suggesting the United States should concentrate more on development of Third World countries.

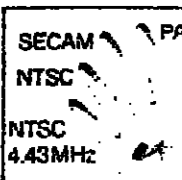
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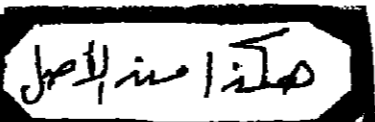
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For destroying their island

Bikinians sue U.S. for \$450m

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — The people of the Pacific island of Bikini, moved from their homeland by the U.S. Navy 35 years ago to allow them to conduct atomic weapons tests, sued the United States today for destroying their island.

The \$450 million class action suit filed in U.S. court of claims is on behalf of the 167 natives, removed from the island in 1947 under the guns of the U.S. Navy, and their descendants.

The suit is similar to others in which American Indians have won huge settlements recently for lands seized in the country's westward expansion. Attorneys for the Bikinians said they hope to benefit from the Indian precedents.

But unlike the Indian lands, Bikini was not part of the United States at the time its natives were removed and the land rendered uninhabitable. A League of Nations trust territory of Japan, it had been taken from the Japanese in World War II and was under U.S. military rule at the time. It later became a United Nations trust under American administration.

Most of the Bikinians, who now number

about 1,080 live on the tiny island of Kili, in the Pacific Ocean about 400 miles (643 kms) southeast of Bikini, part of the Micronesia Trust, which is expected to gain its independence soon.

The Bikinians say that after years of trying unsuccessfully to gain recompense for their loss, they turned to the courts in hopes of settlement before the United States relinquishes all authority over the islands.

"On Sunday, Feb. 10, 1946, the American military governor of the Marshall Islands, Commodore Ben Wyatt, flew by seaplane to Bikini, and at the conclusion of their church services, told the Bikinians that they must leave their homes so the United States could test nuclear weapons," the suit states.

"The Bikinians did not wish to leave their atoll, but in view of the United States' defeat of Japan and Commodore Wyatt's description of nuclear weapons, they believed themselves powerless to resist the United States," the Bikinians said.

Also, they were told that when the tests were over and their islands were no longer needed, they could return to their homes, the suit says. So, on March 7, 1946, the Navy

moved the Bikinians to Rongerik atoll, about 150 mile (241 kms) east of Bikini, and left them with enough food to last two weeks.

"Two months after the move to Rongerik, the Bikinians asked the Navy for permission to return home," the suit says. "Their request was denied. Severe food shortages then occurred, eventually reducing the people to near starvation." In 1948, the Bikinians were housed briefly in tents on Kwajalein atoll, then moved in September to Kili, which they also didn't like.

Serious food shortages occurred on their island in 1949, 1950, 1952, 1958, 1960 and 1968-69. "The situation in 1952 was so severe that it was necessary to air drop food to the island" the lawsuit says. "This was done without the aid of parachutes, and most of the food was smashed and rendered inedible."

Meanwhile, the United States exploded 23 nuclear devices on Bikini between 1946 and 1958. In 1968 the government declared the atoll safe for human habitation and the Bikinians were allowed to return to their homes. But after a lawsuit forced new tests, the island, its food and water were found to have unacceptable levels of radioactivity.

The Bikinians were removed once again to Kili, where most of them remain. The government now says it will be anywhere from 20 to 60 years before Bikini will be habitable.

The suit seeks \$150 million for taking the atoll from its inhabitants, in the first place, another \$150 million for taking the atoll a second time without just compensation and a third \$150 million in damages for failing to care properly for the displaced people over the past 35 years.

Congress has set up a trust fund for the Bikinians, which provides roughly \$40 per person per month. And another act provided a one-time grant of \$1.4 million.

MX missile deployment

U.S. sets up study panel

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced Monday formation of a 15-member panel of "distinguished citizens" to search for a plan to deploy the new MX mobile intercontinental missile in a way that will satisfy environmentalists and national security.

Weinberger asked the group, including industrialists, retired and active senior officers, former defense officials and other experts, to complete their study of MX basing options by July 1.

"The group will advise the Secretary of Defense as to which basing mode seems to be the best for our defense needs," the statement said. Although the Pentagon did not mention the environmental aspect of the problem, Weinberger has indicated clearly he would like to find a basing plan which would avoid possible prolonged court battles by environmentalists fighting the current Air Force intention to spread 200 MX missiles among 4,600 shelters in the deserts of Nevada and Utah.

The defense secretary says he believes that such court battles might seriously delay deployment of the MX missile, which he says is essential because of the growing vulnerability of the present force of 1,000 U.S. Minuteman ICBMs in fixed underground bases.

Forecasting the appointment of the panel, Weinberger said last week that "what we're looking for is a better method of basing

this new and strong missile." Weinberger said, "We will look at the sea-based option. We will look at a number of land-based options."

The Carter administration studied about 35 basing schemes before deciding on the Nevada-Utah deployment idea. Some of the studies were done by "think tank" groups, as well as by in-house Pentagon specialists.

Meanwhile, former Interior Secretary Stewart Udall said Monday in Reno, Nevada, that the U.S. government has not been honest with the states of Nevada and Utah about the effects of the proposed MX missile system and the lack of candor is reminiscent of nuclear weapons testing there two decades ago. "Many civilians in little towns" in Nevada and Utah died or became ill with cancer and other diseases as a result of above-ground weapons testing in the 1950s and early 1960s, Udall said, it reassured these people.

He said he does not believe the air force has presented accurately the missile system's cost or huge demands on sparse water reserves. Udall, who headed the Interior Department in the John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson administrations, is an environmentalist and practices law in Arizona.

"I think the MX program is hare-brained," Udall said. "They may literally have to take all the water that's currently available for livestock and cattle grazing" for the MX, he claimed.

For security reasons

Bulawayo civic poll put off

SALISBURY, March 17 (AFP) — Municipal elections planned for later this month in the southern city of Bulawayo have been postponed indefinitely because of the security situation in the area, Local Government Minister Eddison Zvobgo said Tuesday.

He said the city council elections scheduled for March 28 and 29 had been called off because it was known that many former guerrillas loyal to minority Patriotic Front (PF) party leader Joshua Nkomo had defied government orders to surrender their weapons and had buried or hidden them. Bulawayo was the scene of bitter armed clashes last month between rival guerrilla factions which left more than 300 people dead and several hundred injured.

The government ordered the disarming of all former guerrillas in the wake of the clashes but the exercise has proved difficult because of resistance among the pro-Nkomo men. Zvobgo said he had been advised by the ministers of defense, and home that he would be taking "a grave risk" if he allowed the Bulawayo elections to be held.

Zvobgo said he had been told that "loss" of

weapons in the hands of the pro-Nkomo guerrillas have disappeared and had not been handed to the authorities under the disarming program. "These are known to be hidden in and around Bulawayo," he said.

"I am satisfied that it would be foolhardy for me to proceed with the elections in Bulawayo — and that if I did and one or two of the candidates were shot or killed I would have to accept the responsibility for proceeding in the face of informed advice by the ministers whose responsibility is to maintain the peace," he said.

However, the municipal elections in Salisbury this month would go ahead as planned, Zvobgo said. A spokesman for Nkomo's PF party has meanwhile appealed to Bulawayo people to remain calm in the wake of the decision to halt the elections.

The spokesman denied there was a risk of violence, claiming that the delay was designed to give the ruling ZANUFP (Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front) party of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe more time to "gain more political popularity" in Bulawayo.

Guatemala drops claim to Belize

LONDON, March 17 (AP) — Guatemala has dropped 19th century claims to neighboring Belize and will recognize its coming independence under a three-country deal published Monday. In return, Britain has promised Guatemala rights of access through

Belizean land and territorial waters, a security treaty to counter subversion and other concessions.

The accord declaring an "honorable and final" end to the British-Guatemalan dispute clears the way for Britain's last colony on American continental soil to move toward full independence within its existing frontiers this year.

It also removes a long-smoldering flash-point of possible conflict from the central American setting where East-West tensions over El Salvador and Nicaragua have heightened. Main terms of the outline agreement between British, Guatemalan and Belizean ministers were signed in London March 11.

A clause in the agreement says: "Belize and Guatemala shall sign a treaty of cooperation in matters of security of mutual concern and neither shall permit its territory to be used to support subversion against the other."

The military rulers of Guatemala have long argued that the Belizean government would allow, or alternatively could not prevent, its territory to be used by hostile guerrilla movements backed by Cubans and other radicals. The prospective security treaty was designed to counter any such prospect.

Berliner shot at wall

BERLIN, March 17 (AFP) — A middle-aged man attempting to scale the Berlin Wall from west to east was shot Monday by East German border guards, police in West Berlin reported. The man, who attempted to cross the wall from the West Berlin Reinickendorf neighborhood in the French sector of the city, was carried into East Berlin after being shot.

Eyewitnesses said they could not tell whether the man was still alive. German border guards first fired warning shots, then the man collapsed after two more shots blasted at.

The commander of the French sector of Berlin, joined by the commanders of the American and British sectors, protested "this new recourse to force in contempt of the lives of individuals" and called on East German authorities "to put an end to these inhuman practices".

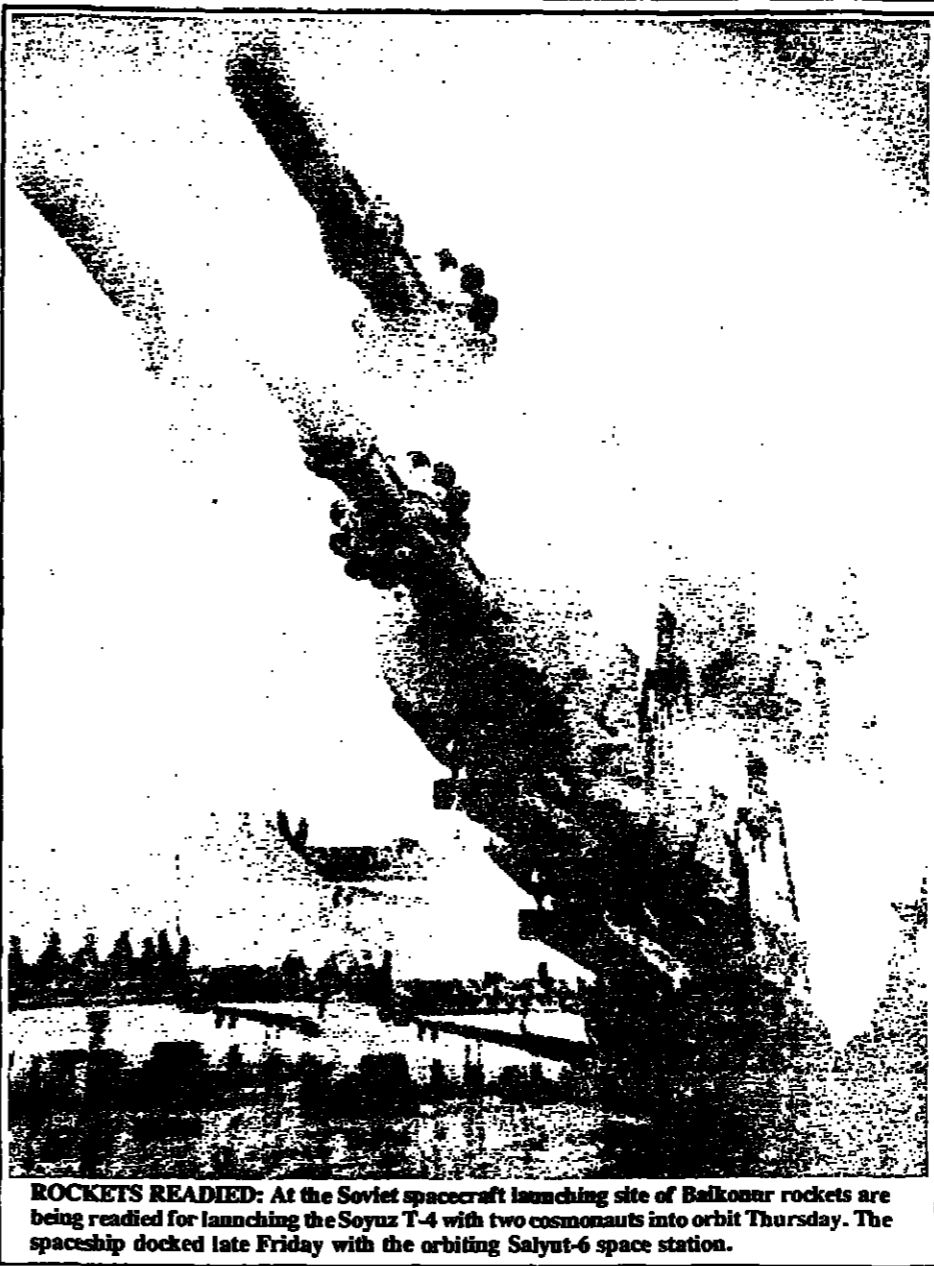
Fraser fears Soviet bombers may destroy cities

CANBERRA, March 17 (AFP) — Soviet nuclear bombers based in Vietnam could destroy Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne by leasing independently targeted nuclear "standoff" bombs, according to Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser. Fraser's statement was a response to journalists' questions about Australian press reports that the bombers, the equivalent of American B-52s, were based at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam.

Fraser said that the planes would take into account the Soviet bombers, Fraser said. These planes could pass over New South Wales and Vic-

toria and return to their home base with one in-flight refueling, he added. "I have always believed that the Soviet Union would use bases in Vietnam. This is one of the consequences of American defeat in Vietnam," Fraser said.

There has been much controversy in Australia about the government decision to allow American B-52s to refuel at Darwin. Defense Minister Jim Killen said it was "fantastic" to suggest that Australia was being set up as a nuclear target. The agreement about the B-52s was based on the understanding that the planes would not be armed, he said.



ROCKETS READED: At the Soviet spacecraft launching site of Baikonur rockets are being readied for launching the Soyuz T-4 with two cosmonauts into orbit Thursday. The spaceship docked late Friday with the orbiting Salyut-6 space station.

Pentagon lining up 50,000 beds in hospitals

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — The U.S. Defense Department is urging the nation's civilian hospitals to set aside about 50,000 beds to help care for heavy casualties that would be expected early in a major war.

Officials emphasized this effort is in no way prompted by any current tensions, but is part of prudent, long-term planning "to build" a wartime system on foundations existing in peacetime.

Help from civilian hospitals, especially in the first month of a major war, would be vital because the anticipated casualties likely would swamp military and veterans administration hospitals in the United States, officials said.

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has signed an appeal for aid from civilian hospitals and the program, in the planning stage for about five years, has the backing of the American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association.

"Because of technical advances in weaponry on the battlefield, we are now faced with the possibility of substantially high numbers of casualties in a very short period of time," Weinberger said.

"In addition, we will not have the past luxury of time to build and mobilize the necessary military medical support base here in the United States for casualties returning from a large-scale war fought in another part of the world," the defense secretary said.

So far, officials developing the civilian-military contingency hospital system report they have won voluntary agreements

Cuba accuses Portuguese of aiding in embassy takeover

HAVANA, March 17 (R) — The Cuban government has accused a Portuguese diplomat in Havana of helping to organize a takeover of the Ecuadorian Embassy by would-be Cuban exiles last month. A Cuban note, distributed to members of the diplomatic corps and foreign press Monday night, said Portugal's charge d'affaires Francisco de Sales Mascarenhas had "oriented, aided and participated in the planning."

It also said "state security has been able to

prove the close ties between the Portuguese diplomat and an official of the CIA." There was no immediate reaction from the Portuguese mission to the charges. Twenty-nine Cubans demanding political asylum and safe conduct out of the country seized the Ecuadorian Embassy including the identity of various participants" and gave them information about its interior.

The Cuban government said it had "arrived at the conclusion that the CIA

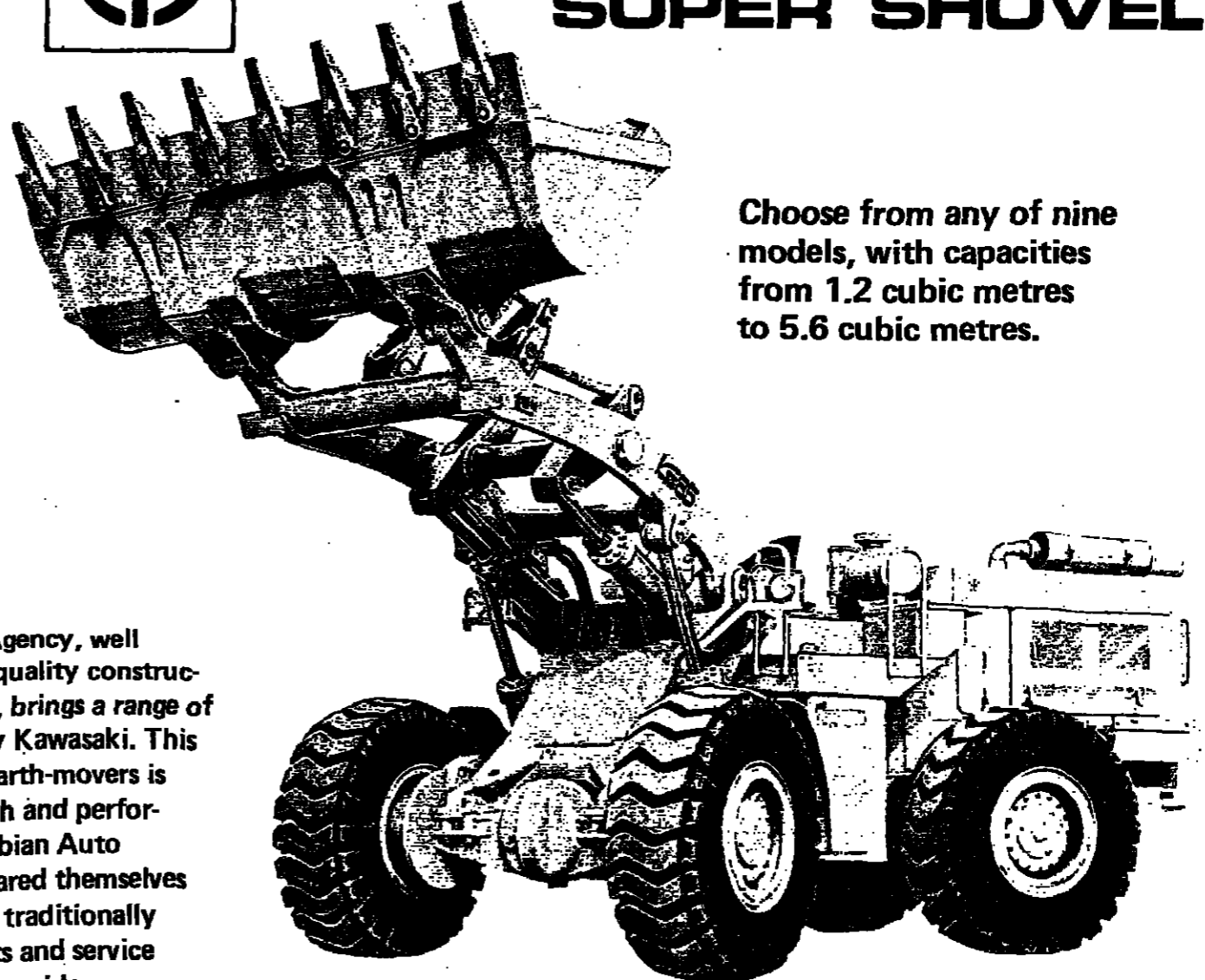
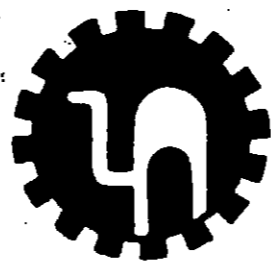
organized this provocation to affect relations between Cuba and Ecuador." It alleged that the diplomat, who has not been declared persona non grata, "knew beforehand the specific plan for the assault on the Ecuadorian Embassy including the identity of various participants" and gave them information about its interior.

After the arrest of the group last month, the Ecuadorian government accused

Cuban security forces of having dislodged them without its permission. The Cuban government insisted that it had received permission from Ecuadorian diplomats in Havana.

Acting Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon told a news conference Monday night that consultations had been "in process" between Quito and Havana and that relations between Cuba and Ecuador have been "traditionally very cordial." He said he would fly to Quito soon.

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Thatcher's budget approved

Thatcher's budget approved

ONDON, March 17 (AP) — The House of Commons approved Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's harsh new budget Monday despite a revolt by some 30 Conservative members who voted against or abstained or a defection of one who quit the party to join the budget package.

The budget, which increases taxes and reduces more money out of Britain's deeply led economy, was passed after the government avoided defeat on the most unpopular measure, higher gasoline taxes, by only 14 votes. In a series of late-night votes on the issue, Mrs. Thatcher's normally comfortable majority fluctuated wildly from 100 to a narrow margin of 14 on the gas tax issue.

Parliamentarians voted 325-270 on the

formal motion to put the budget into effect. Floor managers said that in the narrowest of the series of budget votes, eight of the 336 Conservative parliamentarians voted against Mrs. Thatcher and between 18 and 25 abstained. Exact tallies were not available immediately after the votes. Labor holds 255 seats in the 635-seat House of Commons. Other members represent minority parties.

Earlier, Conservative legislator Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler rose from the government benches, in the first such action since 1906, and took six steps across the floor of the House of Commons to join legislators who broke away from the Labor Party over its left-wing policies. The legislators are expected to announce formation of a social democrat party.

The budget announced last week, which imposes sharply increased taxes, sparked the biggest row yet within the administration over Mrs. Thatcher's attempts to press her controversial tight-money policies in the face of the nation's worst recession in 50 years. Some analysts predicted that up to 20 Conservative parliamentarians would vote against the government on its particularly unpopular increased gasoline duties.

But after vigorous rallying, government floor managers expressed confidence that only about four Tories would break ranks on the final vote scheduled at 10 p.m. (2200 GMT). Brocklebank-Fowler, a left-winger in Tory terms who represents economically-depressed northwest Norfolk, attacked

doubting ministers for failing to resign. "The defection was seen as a significant gain for the 21 Social Democrat parliamentarians — 12 members of the Commons and nine from the House of Lords — who quit the opposition Labor Party last month. They formed the Council of Social Democracy and are due to establish Britain's first social democrat party within weeks.

Brocklebank-Fowler told a news conference he informed Mrs. Thatcher of his decision in a brief letter Monday morning and received "an equally brief" reply. Mrs. Thatcher remains a still comfortable 39-seat overall majority in the Commons, where the Conservatives hold 337 seats and the Labor has 255.

In a defensive speech, Employment Secretary Jim Prior — known to be among ministers dubbed "wets" because they are worried that Mrs. Thatcher is going too far — told the Commons: "A popular and easy choice was never open to us."

Earlier, Mrs. Thatcher told the house she has ordered an inquiry into extensive leaks to two Sunday newspapers of the budget — traditionally known only to the prime minister and the chancellor of the exchequer — three days before it was announced March 10.

In the uproar which followed Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe's budget speech, some half dozen senior Tory ministers complained privately they should have been consulted, and Mrs. Thatcher's aides let it be known she feared leaks from some of her own ministers.

Kuwait signs tie-up pact with France

KUWAIT, March 17 (AP) — A leading Kuwait investment company and a French concern have signed an agreement for setting up a \$27 million joint venture, it was announced here.

The Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company (KFTCIC) signed with Brgm, a French state-owned company, to set up a joint investment venture to be called "Compagnie Internationale de Development Minier," which will operate in the field of mining, the Kuwaiti company said Monday.

The planned company is to be based in Paris, it said. In addition to its own investment, the planned company is to promote joint investment in mining by other Arab and French investors. The new company was to be owned equally by the two partners, the Kuwaiti company added in a press release.

Australia, Bahrain to boost trade ties

BAHRAIN, March 17 (R) — Australian Deputy Prime Minister Doug Anthony has agreed with Bahrain's trade and Agriculture Minister Habib Kassem to boost trade between their countries, officials said.

Anthony, who is also Australia's trade and resources minister, promised assistance to Bahrain in the field of agriculture and fishing.

Farm products

EEC split over price hike

BRUSSELS, March 17 (AFP) — European Economic Community (EEC) countries were split over proposed agricultural price increases averaging 7.8 per cent for the next harvest year.

While Britain, the Netherlands and West Germany accepted the proposals, the rest of EEC countries, notably France, deemed them insufficient. EEC agriculture ministers are supposed to make the final decision late this month on the package proposed by the Common Market Commission.

The French minister, Pierre Mchaugnerie, stressed that it was necessary to remove the cost to EEC farm policy caused for political reasons by the community's relations with third countries (for example, the imports of New Zealand butter under preferential terms).

France, West Germany, Belgium and Ireland have strongly opposed the milk tax, suggested by the commission as a way of combating surpluses.

Meanwhile, economy and finance ministers postponed until Monday their debate on the effect the farm measures on the EEC budget.

However, they reaffirmed their will to end the current interest rate wars and to get the U.S. to lower its high bank rates. French Economy Minister Rene Monory, who recently visited the U.S., said he has noted that U.S. monetary authorities are open to the dialogue on the subject.

He said all the EEC countries should take part in the talks to persuade the U.S. to cut its

interest rates. The U.S. rates, which have declined recently, have contributed to the rise of the dollar and disorder among some West European currency exchange rates. Among other aspects, the highly valued U.S. dollar has meant higher oil bills for some countries.

The Bundesbank was forced to raise its bank rates to stem the outflow of capital from West Germany as well as the deutsche mark's decline in value. The fluctuations of the mark have badly shaken the European monetary system.

Italy braces up to face fresh wave of strikes

MILAN, March 17 (AP) — Italians braced for a new wave of strikes in key health and transport sectors this week.

Strikes called by unions of the National Confederation and by autonomous unions twice disrupted public transportation service nationwide earlier this month, while 50,000 doctors in state-run hospitals struck recently for seven days.

Monday, doctors called wildcat stoppages in specialist divisions such as tests and radiology, while anaesthetists and surgeons were scheduled to stop routine operations Thursday and Friday. Doctors are demanding pay increases of five million lira (\$5,000) a year.

A wildcat strike also halted ferry boat service in the lagoon city of Venice Monday. In major cities, street-cars and buses will be hit by stoppages Wednesday and Friday.

World trade in agriculture sets record

ME, March 17 (AP) — World trade in agriculture set a record of about \$262 billion in 1979, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has said.

FAO Commodity Review and Outlook 81, a yearly analysis of world agricultural trade, including fisheries and forestry, for two years have been a period of "instability" with highly volatile prices for commodities and a weakened demand for agricultural products, especially of raw materials.

The volatility was caused by changes in consumer demands, the global economic recession, the weather, protectionism, internal instability, and speculation, the report said. In a foreword of the review, the director-general of FAO, Edouard Saouma, is concerned about the worsening of terms of trade of some of the major developing countries.

One year ago the export proceeds from tea could finance the import of 17 tons of fertilizer," Saouma said. "Today it covers the cost of eight tons of imported fertilizer and tea prices are continuing to fall in terms."

The review said the 1979 trade record reported a 13 per cent increase over 1978 and four times the 1970 level, with further rises likely in 1980 and 1981. Even so, the increase was below average for the past decade and was more apparent than real because of inflation. The share of agriculture in world trade as a whole continued to diminish in 1979, dropping to 16 from 18 per cent in 1978.

At the same time, the purchasing power of agricultural export earnings by developing countries remained at the 1978 level as a result of inflation, which threatened a "serious erosion" of purchasing power in 1980 and 1981, the review said.

While the export earnings of developed countries rose by 17 per cent in 1979, the review said, those of the developing countries increased at only half that rate and their purchasing power as regards imported manufactures fell by an average of six per cent compared with 1978. The volume of the agricultural exports of these countries rose by only 1 per cent — little more than a third of the increase realized by the developed exporting countries.

Greenlanders to vote on EEC membership

COPENHAGEN, March 17 (AP) — Greenland's home rule government won full parliamentary backing on Monday for a referendum next February on Greenland's membership in the European Economic Community (EEC).

Greenland is a territory of Denmark and joined the EEC with the mother country in 1972. Greenland won home rule three years ago, however, and Denmark has pledged to honor the island's wishes on EEC membership.

BRIEFS

PARIS, (AFP) — A new process for producing electric power from animal excreta was announced by the Agronomy Association of Macedonia and Thrace. The excreta heated to 35 degrees centigrade, and micro-organisms multiply, producing a surprising methane, nitrogen and other elements.

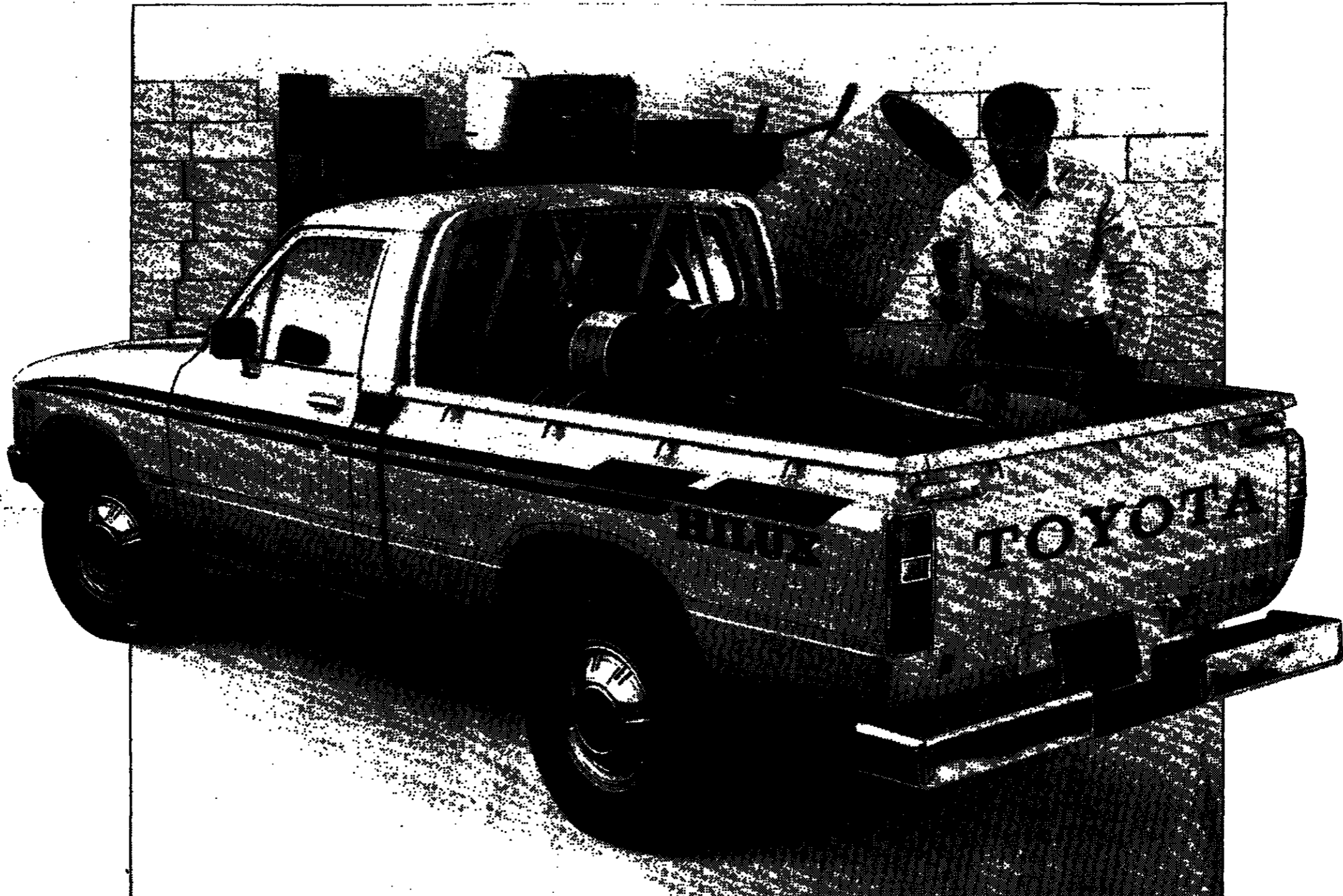
ONDON, (AFP) — British industrial production fell 1.3 per cent in January following a 1.1 per cent increase in December, making 11.5 per cent over the 12 months, the Central Statistics Office said. Britain's industrial output is now at its lowest level in nine years.

AWA, (AFP) — A boycott of tyres by the French Michelin subsidiary in Canada has been called by the Canadian Congress, which covers most unions. The decisions follow 10 years of fruitless attempts to get union representation in the Michelin plants, which are all in Quebec.

PARIS, (AFP) — France had a 3,900 million franc (\$780 million) trade deficit in February against 8,400 million francs (\$1,700 million) in January, the economy ministry has said. Seasonally-adjusted figures showed a deficit of 3,600 million francs (\$720 million).

TOYO, (AFP) — Japan has granted 4,000,000-shilling (\$500,000) facility to reduce Kenya's government-to-government debt owed it Japan, the Kenya agency has reported. Under the agreement signed here Monday, the interest on the loan from Japan will be reduced by 3.5 per cent.

ROME, (AFP) — Olivetti International, part of the Olivetti group, is going to take majority participation in the Swiss firm Precisa International S.A., it was announced. Hermes Meyer said the agreement will permit the firms "to make a position in the market" in the development of technology and to increase their line of products.



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Benson shines

By Cynthia Shanley

HOUSTON, March 17 — Mike Mitchell of the Cleveland Cavaliers scored 31 points, including a 12-foot jump shot with two seconds to play, to give the Cavaliers a 112-110 overtime victory Saturday over the Atlanta Hawks. The Cavaliers' victory snapped their nine-game losing streak. The Hawks led 76-72 going into the final period, but the Cavaliers scored 18 of the next 22 points to open a 10-point lead.

The Detroit Pistons took on the Indiana Pacers the same night and came away with a 101-94 victory. Kent Benson scored 24 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for the Pistons. The game was decided in the final three minutes when Detroit's defense held Indiana scoreless while the Pistons ran off 12 straight points.

Center Sven Nater scored 12 points in the third quarter to lead the San Diego Clippers to their first victory ever over the San Antonio Spurs, a come-from-behind 126-118 triumph.

The Houston Rockets completed a home stretch by winning their last three consecutive games.



SWEEP: Hochtief's Afaq Ahmed all set to sweep the ball in their match against Shalimar Friday.

England's squad

LONDON, March 17 (R) — Aston Villa and West Bromwich, respectively second and fourth in the English League standings, each contribute three players to the squad of 17 named Tuesday from which England's team to play Spain in a 'B' soccer international in Granada on March 25 will be chosen.

People expect too much of me — Beckenbauer

BONN, West Germany, March 17 (AP) — Franz Beckenbauer, back home with another winning team after helping the New York Cosmos to three North American Soccer League titles, is finding things changed since he left the German football wars four years ago.

At 35, the man they call "Der Kaiser" is still mobbed by adoring fans whenever he appears in public. Endorsement contracts, most recently a reported 350,000-mark (\$175,000) deal with Italian automaker Lancia, keep the cash rolling in.

As before, his club appears headed for the Federal League title. But this time it is HSV Hamburg on top of the standings, two points ahead of his old team, defending champion Bayern Munich.

Beckenbauer says the play here now seems "faster, more athletic, harder" than before.

After a record 103 games on the national team, including the world championship side in 1976, his chances for selection this year were questionable.

National trainer Jupp Derwall said last week he planned "no surprises" in other words, no Beckenbauer and would stick basically to his old lineup for the World Championship qualifier against Albania in Tirana April 1.

Four years ago, few fans would argue with press headlines that called Beckenbauer, a two-time European player of the year, "the king of German football now they are skeptics."

In Alireza Cricket League

Red Sea maintains unbeaten sequence

By Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 17 — Red Sea kept their unbeaten record and maintained lead at the top of the Alireza Cricket League Friday, with a convincing win over Yellow Rose.

Red Sea appeared to be in trouble when their opening batsmen fell with only eight runs on the scoreboard, Assad doing the damage. Pezaviz could manage only three runs, and Red Sea looked in desperate straits when too other batsmen too fell easily. However, they decided to move Zahid, who has had several sound innings this season, from 9 spot to No. 6 and his powerful innings of 57, helped his side to a total of 152. Assad match.

Shalimar had a comfortable 124-runs victory over Hochtief, scoring a massive 237

finished with 3 for 34. Shahid and Khan took two wickets each for 24 and 23 respectively. Rose started confidently, and Amjad and Shahid put on 34 runs for the first wicket, before Nadeem struck and started a steady stream of batsmen back to the pavilion. He finished with 5 for 34, recording the second hat-trick of the league, while Khalil claimed five for 32 to rout Rose for a meagre 79 in only 18 overs.

This now leaves Red Sea on 48 points from 12 matches, eight points clear of Shalimar who also won Friday, to keep themselves in contention. This Friday, March 19, will see the important clash between these two teams, in what could be the seasons top league runs for the loss of only four wickets, while bowling out Hochtief for 113 runs. Moin (66) and Afaq (57) were the highest scorers for

Shalimar, combining in a 126-run partnership which proved unbeatable. Afaq then showed his bowling prowess, taking five wickets for 33 runs and helping Shalimar to victory.

Two teams, Indian Embassy and Honda, recorded walk-overs, against NAI and Saple Green. This takes Honda off the bottom of the league and moves Indian Embassy into seventh place on 24 points.

Morton advances

LONDON, March 17 (R) — Morton routed Clydebank 6-0 in the Scottish Football Association Cup quarterfinal replay on Monday.

Morton takes on Rangers in the semifinals at Parkhead, Glasgow April 11.

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BACK HOME: German soccer star, Franz Beckenbauer after a stint with the New York Cosmos is back home assisting Hamburg in the Federal League.

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Batsmen put India back into the game

WICKLAND, March 17 (AFP) — Some hitting by Gundappa Viswanath, Sandeep and Dilip Vengsarkar brought excitement to the last session on the fourth day of the first Test between India and New Zealand here Tuesday afternoon.

India stumps New Zealand four wickets down for having added 102 runs in the two hours tea for the loss of one more wicket. India now wiped off New Zealand's first innings of 128 and is ahead by 69 runs with six wickets in hand.

Viswanath, who came in after Viswanath was dismissed on the first ball after drinks, hit a long-on off Lance Cairns as well as four fours and had scored 36 runs in 56 minutes off 64 balls when stumps were put down.

Vengsarkar, who was on one of the 19 runs including two boundaries to the day not out on 20. They took only 10 minutes and 78 balls to reach their 50-run partnership.

The only Indian wicket to fall in the final hour was that of Viswanath the vice-captain, in the 78th over the innings.

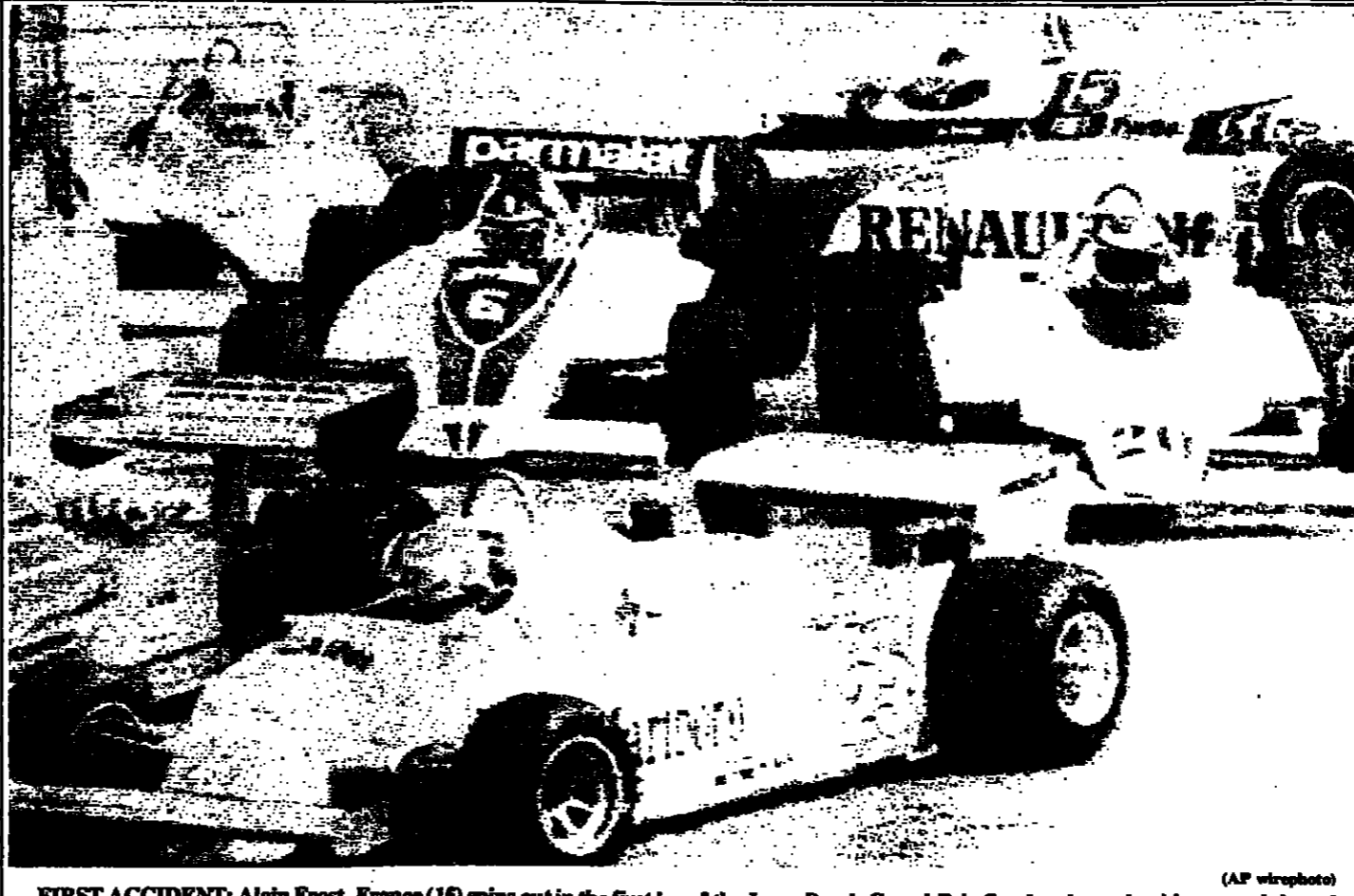
Vengsarkar hit a ball from off-spinner Bruce Edgar to covers, and the batsmen tried for a quick single. But Bruce Edgar took a lot of ground, rapidly picked up the ball and threw it even more quickly direct to

wicketkeeper Ian Smith who sent the ball flying while Viswanath was still trying to reach the crease.

He was dismissed for 46 runs including six boundaries, three of which he hit off successive balls in John Bracewell's 19th over. This exceeded by 37 his previous highest Test score of the New Zealand tour the nine he hit in the second innings of the first Test in Wellington. His average for the three Tests is only 12.8 runs.

New Zealand wicketkeeper Smith performed badly this afternoon, frequently failing to get behind the ball and he was largely responsible for the 13 byes and three leg-byes conceded during the session. New Zealand could have dismissed Vengsarkar in the eighth over after tea when he got the edge to a ball from Richard Hadlee, but Smith not dropped it.

India (1st innings)	238
New Zealand (1st innings)	128
India (2nd innings)	17
New Zealand (2nd innings)	33
C. Chandrababu Naidu c Cairns b Bracewell	9
S. Gavaskar c Wright b Bracewell	19
T.E. Srivastava c Wright b Cairns	19
G. Viswanath run out	20
D. Vengsarkar batting	36
S. Paul batting	36
Extras	36
Total (for four wickets)	197
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-50, 3-83, 4-143.	
Bowling: Hadlee 17.3-48-0; Snedden 7.3-13-0; Cairns 28.13-51-1; Bracewell 32.15-51-2; Conry 4-1-3-0; Howarth 6-3-11-0.	



FIRST ACCIDENT: Alain Prost, France (15) spins out in the first lap of the Long Beach Grand Prix Sunday damaging his car and that of Andrea de Cesaris (8) Italy.

Eric Willborts shocks Dupre

ROTTERDAM, March 17 (AFP) — Eric Willborts, 16, of the Netherlands created a major upset at the International Tennis Tournament here last night beating Wimbledon 1979 semi-finalist Pat Dupre of the USA in a three set first round match 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Yannick Noah of France fought his way back from an indifferent start for a three sets win 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 over Peter Rennert of the USA.

Other results: Wojtak Fibak (Pol) beat Carlos Kirmayer (Bra) 6-1, 4-6, 6-0; Tim Gullikson (USA) beat Kim Warwick (AUS) 6-1, 3-6, 6-0.

In Massachusetts, American Kate Latham upset veteran Billie Jean King 6-3, 6-0 in 39 minutes Monday night in the opening round of the \$150,000 Avon Women's Championship tennis tournament.

"It was the greatest victory of my career," said Latham, 28, who allowed King, 37, to hold service in the third and fifth games. "One win like this and you forget all about the bad matches and the tournaments you've lived through. It's easiest the high point of my six years on the pro circuit."

"I shouldn't play three tournaments in a row after my last knee operation last November," said King.

In the other match of the night, June Russell defeated Pam Teeguarden, 1-6, 7-5, 7-5, in a two-hour, 42-minute match interrupted by player protests and the removal of umpire Norm Fitch.

Malta fined by FIFA

Cruyff may miss World Cup match

VALENCIA, Spain, March 17 (R) — Dutch soccer star Johan Cruyff injured a toe while playing for Second Division Levante Sunday and could miss the Netherlands' World Cup Qualifying match against France in Rotterdam on March 25.

Doctors cannot yet say when he will be able to play again, club officials said Monday. X-rays showed that the damaged middle toe was not broken, but the foot was swollen and doctors will examine it again before judging whether Cruyff could be fit in time.

Cruyff was injured in the first half and did not reappear after the interval. Levante won 1-0 in Valencia.

Meanwhile, The International Football Federation (FIFA) has fined Malta 10,000 Swiss francs (\$5,200) because spectators halted the World Cup match against Poland, it was announced Monday.

FIFA's disciplinary committee also said the Gzira Stadium is unsuitable for international matches but Malta will be allowed to use it at least for the next World Cup qualifying match, which is against East Germany on April 4.

The referee abandoned the Malta-Poland match on Dec. 7 some 13 minutes from the end when fans invaded the pitch. Poland were leading 2-0 and were later declared the winners by that margin.

The disciplinary committee decided against barring the grassless stadium for the moment but called on the World Cup organizing committee to take "adequate decisions" to prevent a repetition of crowd disorder.

Givens included
Dom Givens, transferred last week from Birmingham to Third Division Sheffield United, was given a vote of confidence from the board of Ireland manager Eoin Hand.

Givens, substitute in the second-half of Ireland's 3-1 defeat by Wales last month, was in Hand's 22-man squad for the crucial World Cup qualifier against Belgium next week.

And Hand said, "I still feel Don has a lot to offer. The fact that he has changed clubs has renewed his enthusiasm for the game." Hand will have been influenced by Givens superb goal for United against Charlton on his debut on Saturday.

After injuries wrecked his plans against Wales, Hand was able to name his first choice squad for the trip to Brussels.

Liam Brady is back, David O'Leary returns from injury and the other Arsenal pair John Devine and Frank Stapleton return to the fold after missing the Wales clash through club commitments.

Later this week, Hand will cut his squad down to 18. The players expected to be put on "stand-by" will be Bonnar (Celtic), Ryan (Brighton), Anderson (Preston) and Waddock (QPR).

Three stood down
Meanwhile, three leading players will miss the European Soccer Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final second leg match between the Dutch club Feyenoord and the Bulgarians of Slavia Sofia in Rotterdam on Wednesday.

All three — Andrei Djeljakov and Vanjo Kostov of Slavia and Feyenoord's Loek Balkstein — are banned for accumulating two cautions in earlier matches.

Seven other players are similarly banned from Wednesday's matches in the three European club competitions. They are Heinz Herrmann (Grasshoppers, Zurich), Eric Gerets (Standard Liege), Rudi Kerimov (Cska Sofia), Andreas Krause and Lutz Lindemann, Stefan Engels and Bernd Cullmann (Cologne).

One match — the European Cup fixture between Real Madrid and Spartak Moscow — has been deferred until Thursday.

Brace by Kempes
In Argentina, Mario Kempes, internationally known soccer player, scored two goals in the first game with his new team River Plate giving it a 4-0 victory over Colon.

However, Boca Juniors and Ferrocarril Oeste are still the leaders in the general standings.

Kempes who was transferred recently to

Bulgaria routed

PEKING, March 17 (AFP) — Hungary trounced Bulgaria, 6-1 at the 18,000-seat Capital Gymnasium Monday the World Ice Hockey Championships Pool "C" competition. The period scores were 0-0, 3-0, 3-1.

With four wins and a draw against two defeats, Hungary finishes third on the overall standings behind Austria and China.

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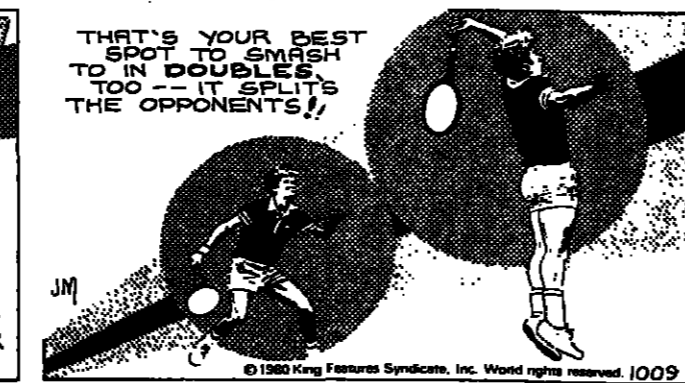
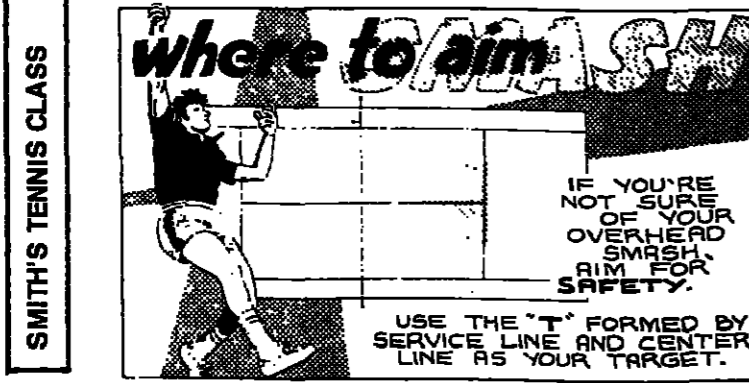
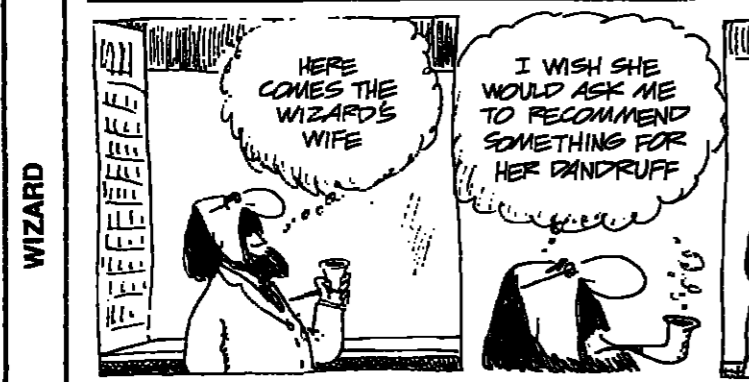
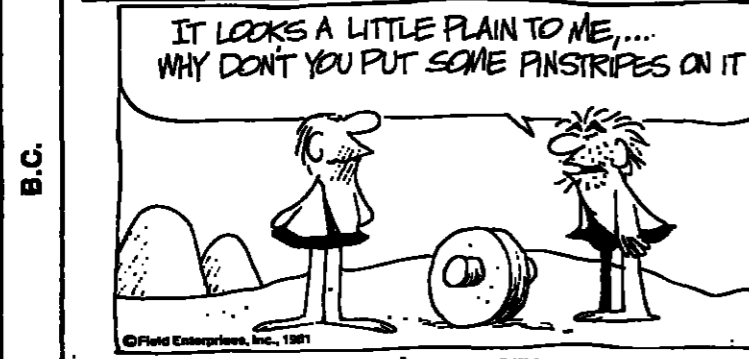
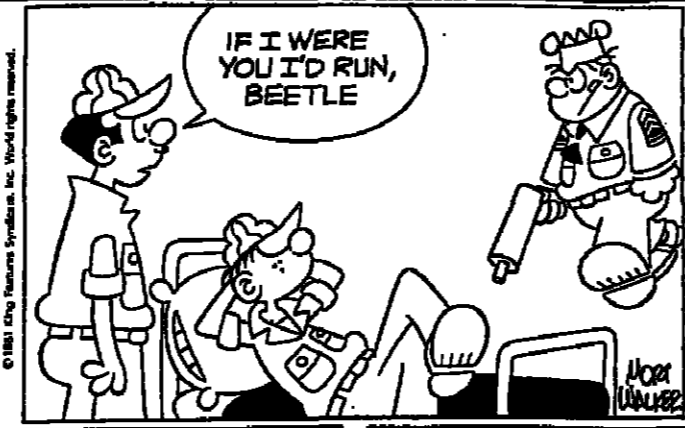
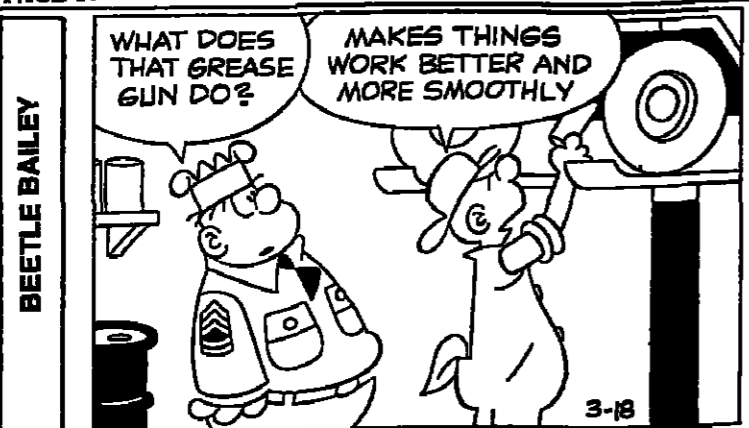
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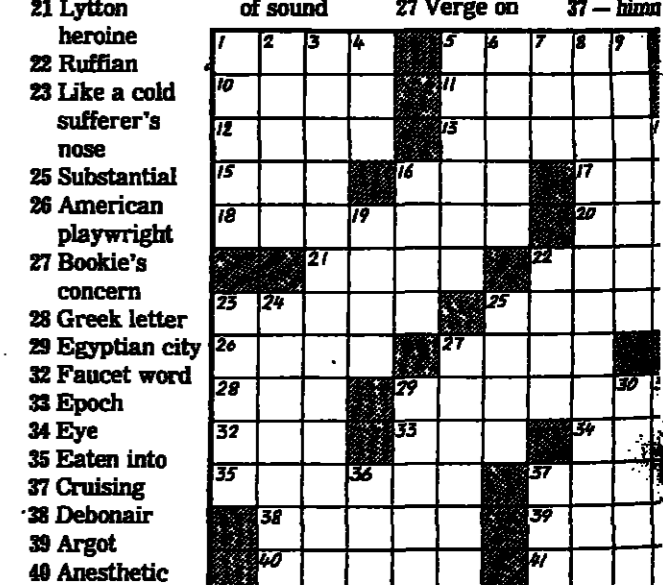
West dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH: ♠ Q 3, ♥ A K J 5 3, ♦ Q 9 5, ♣ Q J 4. WEST: ♠ A K 9 8 6, ♥ 7, ♦ A J 10, ♣ K 5 2. EAST: ♠ 10 4, ♥ 9 8, ♦ 8 7 6 4 2, ♣ 10 9 7 3. SOUTH: ♠ J 7 5 2, ♥ Q 10 6 4 2, ♦ K 3, ♣ A 8. The bidding: West North East South 1♣ Dble Pass 3♥ Pass 4♥. Opening lead — king of spades. Assume you're in four hearts and West leads the K-A of spades. East playing high-low to show a doubleton. When West leads another spade, you ruff with dummy's king, East discarding a low diamond. Obviously, you're sure to lose a diamond trick, so your only worry is whether you'll also lose a club trick. If you examine all four hands, it becomes obvious that the effect of staking the contract on a successful club finesse is that you go down one. Considering that West opened the bidding, this is not surprising. Actually, though, instead of relying on a finesse that is likely to fail, it is better to adopt a different approach to the play. It is based on the high probability that West holds the ace of diamonds. If he has it, you're certain to make the contract with correct play. At trick four you play the ace of hearts, and at trick five you play a low heart to your queen. You then lead the three of diamonds. West can't afford to go up with the ace — he'd hand you the contract if he did — so let's say he plays the ten. You win the diamond in dummy with the queen, return to your hand with a trump and cash the jack of spades, discarding a diamond from dummy. Then you exit with the king of diamonds. West wins, but is in bad shape. If he leads a club, you have no club loser; if he leads a spade or a diamond, you still have no club loser because you ruff in dummy and discard the eight of clubs. The hand demonstrates, for the umpteenth time, the principle that a declarer should always look for an alternative method of play before attempting a crucial finesse.

Your Individual Horoscope

For Wednesday, March 18, 1981. What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign. ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Nerves could affect work performance. By midday you're in a more settled frame of mind. Seek equilibrium rather than large gains. TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Friends are erratic in making plans. Enjoy lunch with a co-worker. Possible strain with a close friend later. Be cooperative. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Conflicting interests mar the day. Noontime is best for family meetings. A child could act up later. Business and pleasure don't mix. CANCER (June 21 to July 21) Misunderstandings are possible now. A family member has good advice, yet you may not want to do things exactly that way. LEO (July 22 to Aug. 22) You'll need to watch expenses now. Midday is the best time for financial talks. Romantic innuendo marks an evening conversation. VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Don't insist on getting your way now. Obstacles may interfere with your plans. financial matter is resolved your satisfaction. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be discreet in behavior. Gossips abound. Pay no attention to rumors. Midday is best time for action, but keep a low profile. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Relations with friends are frayed. It will be hard to reach mutually satisfactory times. Watch nighttime friction. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Friends and family come for your attention. A noon business meeting is promising, but leave well alone. Don't press. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Advice on personal matters is liable to be faulty, yet trusted adviser helps you in a business matter. Aquarius schemes. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Watch arguments involving joint assets. Seek an impartial judgment from an expert. down on expenditures a business hours. PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) It's give-and-take in relationships now. Don't bring up unpleasant topics from the past. Do your best to get along with others.

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH. ACROSS: 1 Stone chest, 5 Muslim deity, 10 Rhode Island's motto, 11 Not fastened, 12 City of Manasseh, 13 Original Sesame, 16 Old Fr. shooting match, 17 English river, 18 Cracker, 20 Gear tooth, 21 Lytton heroine, 22 Ruffian, 23 Like a cold sufferer's nose, 25 Substantial American playwright, 27 Bookie's concern, 28 Greek letter, 29 Egyptian city, 32 Faucet word, 33 Epoch, 34 Eye, 35 Eaten into, 37 Cruising, 38 Debonair, 39 Argot, 40 Anesthetic. DOWN: 41 Willful — White, 1 Talkfests, 2 Old Greek colony, 3 Explaining, 4 Thrice (mus.), 5 Lofly, 6 Moto on film, 7 Law (Fr.), 8 Practically telling, 9 Listen, 14 Tall, 16 Undersized, 19 Quality of sound, 22 Old-time peruke on film, 23 Nouveau — 38 Tendent, 24 Dislodge, 31 Subside, 25 Arizona, 27 River on knife, 28 Superm, 29 Supern, 30 Tendent, 31 Subside, 32 Nouveau, 33 Subside, 34 Burner, 35 Knife, 37 — him.



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE

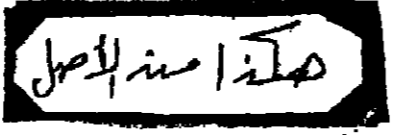
Here's how to work AXYDLBAAXE is LONGFELLOW. One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single left apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are hints. Each day the code letters are different. CRYPTOQUOTES: IQYHROH HAR SJQTB. HAR TYI SQJDLB IRWOR WDT HAR BHYC SQJDLB HWK RKREIHJYDB. YQJLJD XDFDYGD. Yesterday's Cryptquote: YOU'VE GOT TO DO YOUR OWN GROWING, NO MATTER HOW TALL YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS.—ANON

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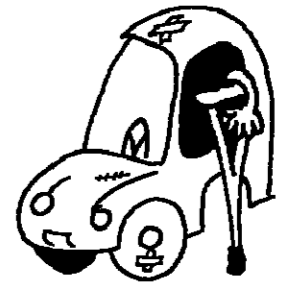
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U.S. panel chairman meets Duarte

\$5m aid to Salvador approved

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposed new military aid for El Salvador has won what may be its only test in the Senate with a 6-2 approval by a subcommittee.

The Senate Foreign Relations Appropriating Subcommittee took that vote on allowing \$5 million worth of military aid to go forward. A similar house subcommittee plans to take its vote next Tuesday.

The president used his emergency authority to send 20 additional military advisers and \$20 million in military and to El Salvador. But the \$5 million was subject to veto by the two subcommittees because it is being redirected from other programs for which it was appropriated by Congress.

Approval of the \$5 million was opposed on the Senate subcommittee by Mark Hatfield, Republican chairman of the parent Senate Appropriations Committee.

Subcommittee chairman Bob Kasten notified Secretary of State Alexander Haig, that "the administration may go forward" with the aid. "All of us are worried about the fact that we have Americans now in El Salvador," Kasten said. "And all of us are wor-

ried about the possibility of the United States getting embroiled in a difficult situation."

But Kasten said he is convinced that fears of U.S. escalation of Vietnam-like combat are unfounded, noting that El Salvador has said it does not need U.S. combat help. The \$5 million is earmarked for patrol boats, helicopters, radar, vehicles and other equipment to help El Salvador forces counter infiltration of guerrillas into the country.

In another development, the Senate Democrats released Monday a letter to President Ronald Reagan questioning his administration's word that it is pressing El Salvador to investigate the murders of four American church workers.

"We fear that the United States may be in the position of supporting a government which by its stonewalling on the issue of the investigation, supports terrorism committed by the own security forces," the Senators wrote.

The letter was sent to the president last Friday by three senior Democrats on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, Edward Zorinsky of Nebraska and Joseph Biden of Delaware.

Meanwhile, in San Salvador Clarence Long, chairman of a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives considering Reagan's request for more military aid to El Salvador, met Monday with the president of the ruling junta. Long arrived in San Salvador on a two-day fact-finding visit and had been himself briefed by U.S. Embassy officials before meeting with Junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Fighting between government forces and leftist guerrillas was, meanwhile, reported in the department of Morazan, 160 kms east of here, in the town of Suchitoto, 48 kms to the north and in villages in the northern department of Chalatenango.

Army sources reported heavy fighting in which two soldiers were killed in the town of Villa Victoria, about 88 kms northeast of the capital. The sources said the guerrillas occupied the town.

Eight deaths were reported in the capital overnight, one of them a soldier, and authorities reported finding 20 bodies of apparent terror victims around the country. They included three headless corpses.



QUEUING FOR WATER: Men, women and children wait in line at Suchitoto in El Salvador Thursday to fill water containers. The town had been without water for about a month and water is brought in daily by the army in trucks. (AP photo)

Curfew clamped on town

NEW DELHI, March 17 (AP) — Authorities proclaimed an indefinite round-the-clock curfew in Nadiad town in India's violence-torn Gujarat state Monday after large-scale rioting and arson by student agitators, the United News of India (UNI) reported.

Reported and paramilitary units fired repeatedly on rampaging youths mobs in Ahmedabad and Nadiad, wounding several people, the agency said. Three demonstrators were killed by police fire Sunday in Ahmedabad.

Rock-hurling students set aflame shops and buses and attacked police patrols in Nadiad, the report said. In Ahmedabad, riot-

German search finds bomb threat baseless

FRANKFURT, March 17 (R) — Security men searched a Chicago-bound Lufthansa DC-10 aircraft Tuesday after a bomb threat forced it to turn back over the north Atlantic and return to Frankfurt but no bomb was found, an airline spokesman said. The plane, carrying 210 passengers and 13 crew, turned back last night after security officials found an anonymous note in a bag in the Frankfurt airport terminal.

The Lufthansa spokesman said police were examining the three-page threat, attached to an automatic siren apparatus which originally drew the attention of airport security men.

Strike suspended

U.S. seeks information on exercises in Poland

WASHINGTON, March 17 (Agencies) — The Reagan administration has called on the Soviet Union to supply advance information to the West on its upcoming military exercises near Poland.

If the size of the force is 25,000 or above, the Soviets are obliged by international agreement to give advance notice of the exercise. However, even if the size of the force is smaller, State Department spokesman William Dyess said, "It would obviously ease tensions if the Soviets supplied information on the exercises in this area which is the focus of world attention."

Secretary of State Alexander Haig, expressed concern to reporters last week over what he said was the "huge" size of the Warsaw Pact exercises, but said he did not know whether they would actually cross the border into Poland.

Meanwhile, free trade union leaders in the industrial city of Radom have lifted a strike threat and agreed to talks with the government in Warsaw Tuesday after winning their demands for the resignations of two top local officials. The Solidarity independent union movement suspended a two-hour regional stoppage set for Wednesday after the authorities accepted the resignations of Gov-

ernor Roman Mackowski and party boss Janusz Prokopiak, blamed by workers for suppression of a labor revolt in 1976.

The suspension of the stoppage also followed an appeal for restraint by Solidarity's national leader Lech Walesa who said excessive strikes were harming the union and expressed confidence in what he called the responsible government of Prime minister Wojciech Jazdzewski.

The Solidarity branch in Radom, a city of 190,000 people south of Warsaw, is also calling for the resignation of police chief Marian Mozgawa. There was no official confirmation of his removal but national television Monday night referred to him as ex-police chief of Radom province.

The Radom union's demands stem mostly from a 1976 strike in protest against higher food prices. Disgruntled workers set fire to the local Communist Party headquarters after the authorities refused to talk with them. Hundreds of workers were arrested and some 50 were jailed and then amnestied the following year. Solidarity has demanded an investigation into their trial and disciplinary action against prosecutors, judges and court officials involved.

Iranian pilot seeks asylum in Turkey

ANKARA, March 17 (AP) — The Iranian air force lieutenant colonel and his wife, who commandeered an Iranian cargo plane to eastern Turkey, are seeking temporary political asylum, official Turkish sources said Tuesday. The temporary request led to speculation that the colonel and his wife plan to seek permanent refuge in a Western country — perhaps the United States.

Meanwhile Tuesday, the commandeered plane, variously identified as a C-47 or a C-130 cargo craft, returned to Iran less than 24 hours after it landed in Turkey. The plane's crew of 10 were on board, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported. The agency said Turkey's ruling National Security Council was still studying the colonel's asylum request.

The identity of the colonel and his wife still had not been disclosed Tuesday morning nearly 24 hours after the plane landed in Van a Largely Kurdish-populated city about 90 kms west of the Iranian border.

Top military sources said the plane was a World War II vintage C-47 cargo craft used by the Iranian air force for internal flights.

One Istanbul newspaper said the crew and the colonel and his wife spent the night in state water authority lodgings on the shore of Lake Van. Initial reports indicated the colonel and his wife were accompanied by a child, but that now seems to have been erroneous, a top military source said.

One newspaper quoted the colonel as saying he and his wife "were fed up with the regime of Iran," and faced "certain execution" if they were returned. Last year two Iranian air force pilots landed a commandeered helicopter in eastern Turkey and sought and were granted political asylum.

But with the military now in charge here it was unclear what will happen to the colonel and his wife. The Turkish generals have been very careful to do nothing to anger Iran, a top source of oil for Turkey.

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Delay in ending hijack

American blames Soviets

WASHINGTON, March 17 (R) — The United States has held the Soviet Union partly responsible for the delay in ending the 13-day hijacking of a Pakistani airliner which lasted from March 2 until last Saturday night.

State Department spokesman William Dyess told reporters: "I don't see how the Soviets can entirely escape responsibility for what took place."

He said Monday that while the plane sat at Kabul airport for six days, Moscow made no serious effort to resolve the incident despite its influence in Afghanistan, where the Soviet Union has been intervening militarily since December, 1979.

Moscow did not condemn the hijacking until 10 days after it had begun, Dyess said. He added that the hijackers might have acquired arms in Kabul, although this was based on circumstantial evidence. "They arrived with pistols, they left with machine guns," he said.

A statement from the Soviet Embassy in Washington called the accusations "completely groundless" and "crude and undignified". Dyess said Afghan authorities initially prevented Pakistani negotiators from contacting the hijackers, insisting instead that any talks be conducted through them.

Afghan leader Babrak Karmal "publicly and privately put the blame on the government of Pakistan and demanded that the Pakistanis give in to the hijackers," Dyess said.

"The hijackers appeared to be under little pressure in Kabul. They received visitors at planeside," he added. "Eyewitness American accounts indicate that at least at one point, all three hijackers stood in view of Afghan and Soviet personnel without any apparent concern for their own safety," he said.

Dollar rates decline

LONDON, March 17 (AP) — The sustained fall in U.S. interest rates and lower Eurodollar rates forced the dollar down on foreign exchange markets Tuesday in thin trading. Gold prices were mixed. On Monday Chase Manhattan and First National Bank of Chicago lowered their prime lending rates to 17.5 per cent, matching the rates set last week by Chemical Bank.

The British pound gained more than one cent at \$2.2505, (\$2.2388).

In Tokyo, the dollar closed at 207.25 yen, down from 208.40 Monday. In later European trading, the dollar was quoted at 207.03 yen.

Gold prices hovered around the \$500 mark in quiet trading. London's five bullion houses fixed a recommended morning gold price of \$498.25 a troy ounce, up from \$497 late Monday.

In Zurich, gold traded for \$499.50, down from \$500.50.

100 Iranians die in Iraqi offensive

BEIRUT, March 17 (R) — About 100 Iranians and five Iraqis were killed in fighting in 24 hours, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) has reported.

It quoted Monday a high command communique as saying the Iranians lost two tanks and six vehicles.

The communique said Iraqi operations included a commando raid on Iranian positions in the Susangerd area, in Khuzestan province, killing 11 Iranians. Iraqi forces also fired on troop concentrations in the Abadan area, killing 34 Iranians.

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